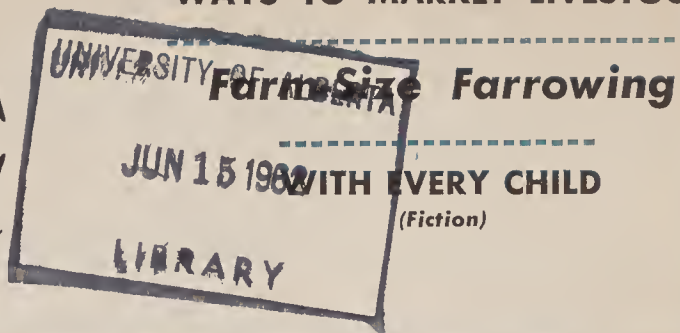


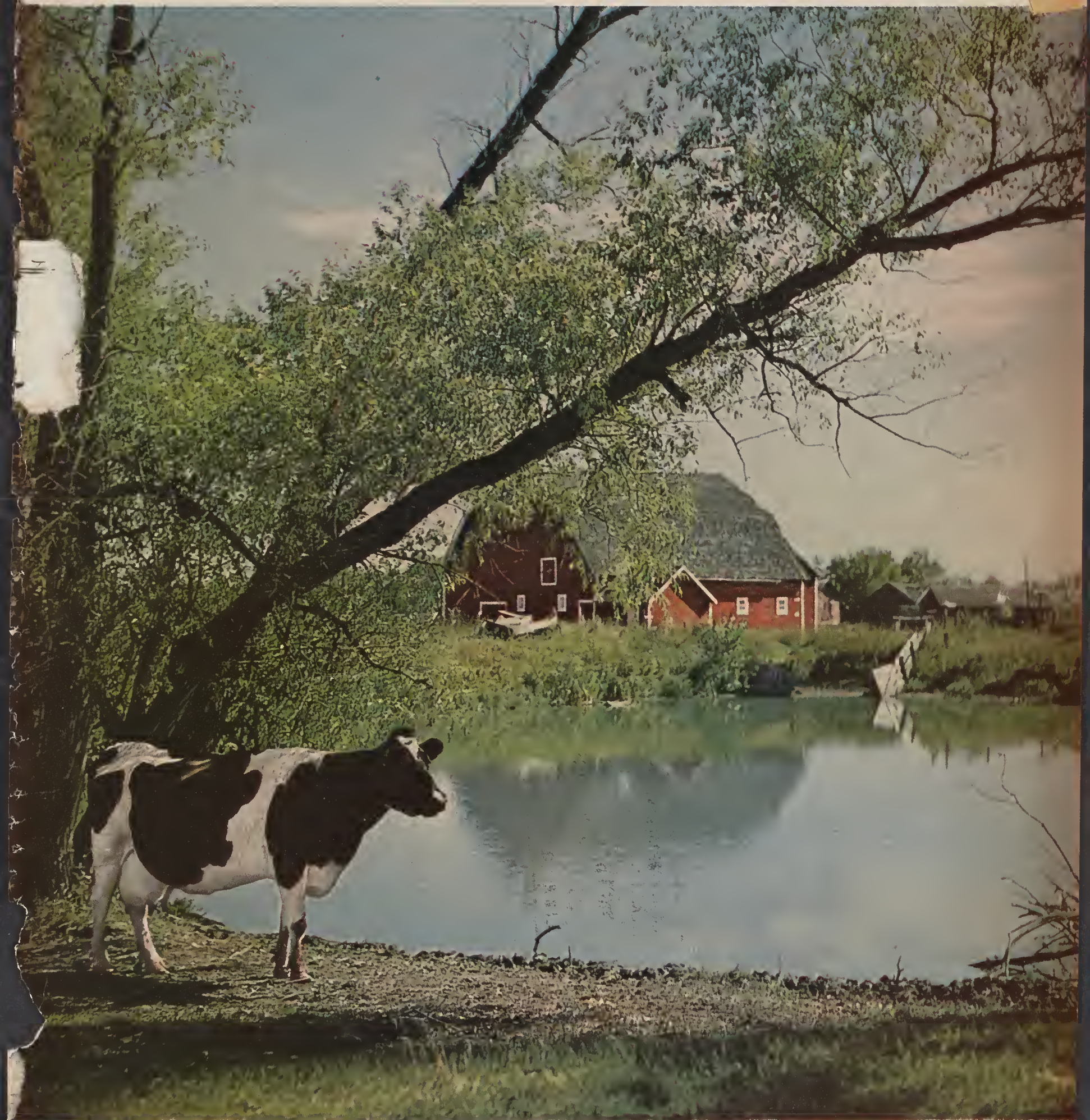
THE *Country* GUIDE

CANADA'S NATIONAL FARM MONTHLY

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THE Country GUIDE

Incorporating The Nor'West Farmer and Farm and Home

CANADA'S NATIONAL FARM MONTHLY

Editor: LORNE HURD

Associate Editor: RICHARD COBB

Field Editors:

CLIFF FAULKNER, Western Canada
DON BARON, Eastern Canada

Home and Family Section

Associate Editors:

ELVA FLETCHER
GWEN LESLIE

In This Issue



A new design for the farrowing house has been adopted by Evert Aukema (above) and others. Don Baron's report is on page 12.

LEPTO! Now a No. 1 menace to cattle and swine, especially in Ontario, leptospirosis can be held in check—see page 21.

HOW DO YOU SELL? Western Field Editor Cliff Faulkner has been looking into livestock markets and hearing stockmen's views. The results are in three articles starting on page 14.

TRY THE RECIPES on page 41 for evidence of the good eating available through dairy foods. And remember, June is Dairy Month!

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COVER: A Holstein at the watering place on Willard Forrester's farm at Emerson, Man.—Ralph Hedlin photo.

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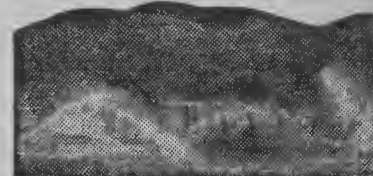
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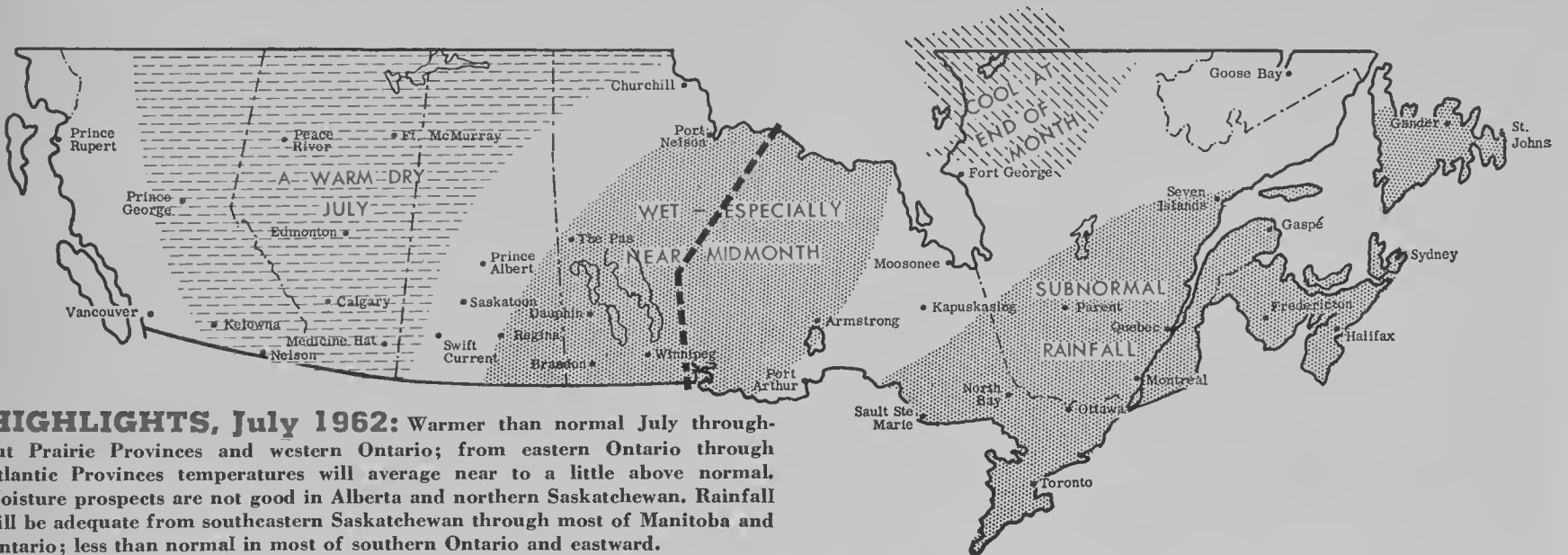
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HIGHLIGHTS, July 1962: Warmer than normal July throughout Prairie Provinces and western Ontario; from eastern Ontario through Atlantic Provinces temperatures will average near to a little above normal. Moisture prospects are not good in Alberta and northern Saskatchewan. Rainfall will be adequate from southeastern Saskatchewan through most of Manitoba and Ontario; less than normal in most of southern Ontario and eastward.

(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast. It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)

Alberta

- 1st week 1-7:** Fair with seasonable temperatures during first few days. Showers and thunderstorms will develop on 4th followed by a couple of days of cooler weather (night readings in mid-30s to mid-40s).
- 2nd week 8-14:** Some of the month's more important precipitation is expected this week. Rather widespread shower activity is due near 9th and again on last couple of days. No unusually cold or hot weather.
- 3rd week 15-21:** Trend toward sunny, dry weather with only scattered showers in northern portion of province around 16th. Hot weather on a few days near mid-week, temperatures soaring into 90s in many areas.
- 4th week 22-28:** It will continue dry throughout the province during this interval—with only a chance of some scattered showers near the 23rd and 28th. Seasonable temperatures will predominate.
- 5th week 29-31:** Dry first couple of days, giving way to considerable shower activity around 31st.

Saskatchewan

- 1st week 1-7:** It will be quite hot during the first couple of days but the week will close cool. Precipitation will be quite widespread, it is anticipated, between the 4th and 6th.
- 2nd week 8-14:** Most days through to the middle of the week will be fair and warm. Storm systems beginning near the 13th can be expected to bring a few days of quite general showers.
- 3rd week 15-21:** Showers first few days and scattered showers around 20th. Cloudiness at first will restrict warming, but as skies clear near mid-week day temperatures will reach 90s in south. Cooler again near 21st.
- 4th week 22-28:** Cool early in week, with seasonal temperatures during balance of week. Scattered showers in north around 23rd and 24th, extending south by 25th. More general showers at end of week.
- 5th week 29-31:** Unsettled interval with showers and thunderstorms expected on a couple of days.

Manitoba

- 1st week 1-7:** It will be hot during first few days, with trend toward cooler weather around 6th and 7th. The more general showers of the week will occur around 5th and 6th.
- 2nd week 8-14:** Warmer weather (upper 80s) around 9th and 10th; otherwise no extreme temperatures. First 4 or 5 days will be generally sunny with showers and thunderstorms developing around 13th and 14th.
- 3rd week 15-21:** It will continue wet with temperatures a little below normal for first few days. Sky conditions improving after mid-week, with fair weather during last couple of days; cooler by 21st.
- 4th week 22-28:** Cool weather will end about 22nd, with hot days during middle of week. Showers and thunderstorms will be numerous about 25th and 26th and again at end of week.
- 5th week 29-31:** Showery conditions on 29th followed by clearing skies on 30th and 31st.

Ontario

- 1st week 1-7:** Fair and warm in most of province during first 4 or 5 days, except for threatening conditions in southeast around 4th. Near 6th and 7th, showers and thunderstorms will arrive.
- 2nd week 8-14:** Cooler during early part of week, with temperatures moderating by mid-week. Warm and humid around 13th and 14th, showery near 11th, and again in areas near Great Lakes about 14th.
- 3rd week 15-21:** Showers will linger in south on 15th, shower and thunderstorm activity during last half of week; some locally heavy amounts, especially around 21st. Warm and humid during first few days.
- 4th week 22-28:** Showers will be diminishing after 22nd. Brief improvement in sky conditions on 23rd and 24th before more showers and rain develop. A majority of days will be cooler than normal.
- 5th week 29-31:** This interval will be characterized by pleasant mild weather.

Quebec

- 1st week 1-7:** Skies will be threatening on 4th and 5th with showers likely on 7th. Expect warm weather (80s) through mid-week—turning cooler toward the end of the week.
- 2nd week 8-14:** Cool through early part of interval, with warmer conditions toward end of week. Scattered showers expected on 8th—mostly in southern half of province on 12th.
- 3rd week 15-21:** Cloudy skies with showers and thunder on most days, heaviest during last few days. Readings in upper 80s and low 90s, along with high humidity, during first half of week.
- 4th week 22-28:** Cool first couple of days, warming trend in prospect during middle of week. More cool air will spread across province toward week end. Some showers and thunderstorms about 26th and 27th.
- 5th week 29-31:** Most days will be sunny, but temperatures will be a little below seasonal.

Atlantic Provinces

- 1st week 1-7:** Low cloudiness in coastal areas during first half of week. General showers and rain toward end of week. Mild during first few days, with hotter weather about 5th and 6th.
- 2nd week 8-14:** Cool and unsettled during early part of week, with showers likely on a couple of days. After mid-week, skies mostly fair except for showers in Labrador and Newfoundland around 14th.
- 3rd week 15-21:** Sections along Atlantic coast can expect showers between 15th and 17th, becoming more general through the provinces on 19th and 20th. The first half of the week will be mild.
- 4th week 22-28:** Cooler air will bring scattered showers on first day or two. Another storm around 27th will bring locally heavy showers and thunderstorms to north, followed by cooler weather.
- 5th week 29-31:** Cool for first day or two of this interval—moderating by 31st.

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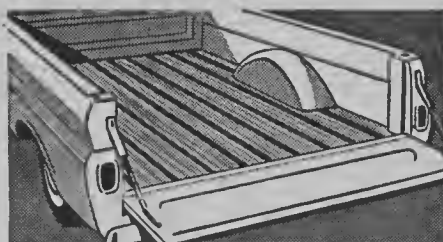
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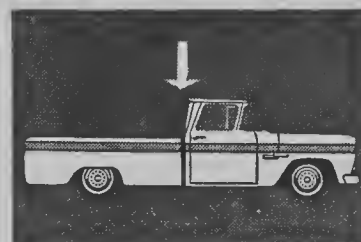


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Editorials

We Get What We Deserve

NOT long ago a retiring university president said one of his pet peeves was the fact that those most qualified to govern seldom get into government. Looking at the state of the world today, most of us would be inclined to agree with him. People willing to run for office who possess that special blend of idealism, strength and ability which makes for statesmanship are in very short supply. Yet never has the need for good leaders been greater, locally, nationally and internationally.

On the local scene, for instance, let each of us take a look at the people standing for office in our own district. Ask ourselves whether they are the best possible candidates our area can produce, or just highly vocal people with over-size ambitions. Perhaps it was merely a case of each candidate having a large local following—being well enough known to capture the seat for the good old party. If so, how did such a candidate get to where he might represent us in Parliament—might in fact, serve on a committee and represent us and our country at United Nations?

How often have we seen some particular candidate's name on the list and muttered disgustedly: "Of all people, why did they have to choose *him*?" Who do we mean by "*they*"? Who is this mysterious (and generally unsatisfactory) entity we entrust with the job of choosing our future leaders?

"They," of course, refers to "the other fellow," because most of us belong to the "let George do it" school of procrastination. And too often "George" turns out to be someone with a particular axe to grind. By the time we realize this it's too late to do anything about it.

But the "theys" of this world couldn't operate without a secret partner, and that's where we come in. The fact is, we ourselves chose this candidate that we object to so much. We chose him the night we decided to slump in front of the T.V. set and watch our favorite program instead of attending his nomination meeting.

What happened to the people in our district whom we know could serve our country much better? Maybe they feel they can't afford to give up their chosen careers to go into politics. They're quite wrong, of course. The truth is, they can't afford *not* to serve, because the results of poor leadership will affect them as much as anybody.

Maybe these people feel there is a certain

stigma attached to being in politics. If they do, the fault lies with us all, for politics is merely the "science of government"—a very necessary and honorable endeavor. If any stigma exists in this term it's because we have allowed the term to fall into disrepute.

On the other hand, perhaps there are good sound prospects who lack that indefinable asset called "voter appeal," which can make or break a candidate. If so, we will have to ask ourselves just what we are looking for in a candidate. Do we want a good, sound administrator, or a spellbinder who perhaps is more suited to Stratford than to Ottawa? In short, do we want someone who appeals to our minds, or someone who plays on our emotions? Too often we fail to see the full national picture, and vote for someone because they appeal to our

Gimmicks vs. Good Management

THERE is a growing disquiet among many consumers over the number of chemicals being used as "gimmicks" to increase farm production—especially meat production. These include the regular feeding of antibiotics for disease control and hormones which alter normal body processes to boost an animal's growth rate. What the public is concerned about is how much of this stuff is being carried over to the final product.

The danger lies not so much in the fact these substances are used, but that they can be misused when administered by people who have no real inkling of their potential power. After all, what does a printed warning tell a harried operator who is concerned with battling a narrow profit margin? Another danger is that some operators might consider these wonder drugs a substitute for regular good farming practices. Why be too fussy about sanitation, for instance, when we can feed an antibiotic?

The stock answer to any expressed fears is a reassuring: "There has never never been any known instance where these things have proved harmful!" Of course, the fact that large sectors of the population haven't suddenly dropped dead on the street doesn't prove much either. A well-known Canadian geneticist was once heard to remark: "There has also never been

materialistic wants by promising money for local improvements.

At one rural political rally a few years back the candidate was interrupted by a farmer in the front row, who bellowed: "Ask the Premier what he's going to do about the mudhole in front of my property!" This type of "mudhole" philosophy has been appealed to by all parties in the present contest. "If you elect me I will give you. . . ." One thing we must keep in mind is that all these promised works must be paid for eventually by you-know-who.

But don't blame the politician for this type of bribery. At election time, politicians are much more concerned with the Science of Human Behavior than the Science of Government. If they appeal to our baser instincts they do so because they have every reason to believe this is the best way to approach us. In other words, they have a very cynical regard for our moral integrity. And who can blame them? No one who deals with the public can fail to note the steady erosion of our moral values.

We get the kind of politicians and kind of government we deserve. Some day (and soon) we are going to have to face up to this fact or face up to something a whole lot worse. It could mean the loss of this privilege of deciding what kind of people we want to rule us. V

any real proof that they are *not* harming us." Like atomic fallout damage, it might take a long time to reveal itself.

Consider some other farm aids such as systemic insecticides, certainly not in the "gimmick," class, but potentially dangerous. These are chemicals so poisonous they kill creatures which bite the flesh of the animal they were given to (don't choke on that steak, friend. Remember, there has never never been, etc.) Human nature being what it is, can we rely on the average operator to treat these new substances with the healthy respect they warrant? The answer is that we must. In the interests of National health it is clearly the duty of every user of these chemicals to follow the instructions on each package or can.

The latest of these domestic survival tests is the beef tenderizing process, which involves adding enzymes to dressed meat. It is reputed to turn a rangy old Holstein cow into tender, prime beef. What price decades of careful breeding, selection and feeding if you can slip a hypo into any old carcass and have Grade No. 1 in a jiffy?

There are a couple of drawbacks to this new technique which might delay its acceptance, however. One is that packers aren't too sure how much tenderizer to add so as to compensate for the age and toughness of each carcass. You see, this stuff doesn't go to work until it gets right into the home kitchen. If the housewife applies too little heat the meat stays tough—too much, and it goes soft and "mushy."

What bothers us, once the tenderizer is activated who tells it when to stop working? To use an old automotive term, we don't want to become a nation of gutless wonders.

However, we are quite sure there will never be any real proof to show that this softening process is harmful either—at least not unless we run autopsies on everybody.

Most of us will agree these production aids do play a vital role, and that they are here to stay. But let's make sure that: (1) they are handled safely and intelligently; and (2) that they are never used as a substitute for good management on the farm. Maybe we aren't paying enough attention to the human welfare angle in our search for products which will increase profits. V

Killing the Goose

People who deplore the growth of business co-ops and producer marketing boards would do well to reread the fable of the goose that laid the golden egg. Not long ago, 21 vegetable growers in a Western irrigation district put up \$1,000 apiece to finance their own packaging-selling agency because brokers and handlers were making more money than the producers were—and with no investment, labor or risk. The broker even took a markup of 100 per cent on potato sacks he supplied. His only investment was a small office equipped with a phone.

In another part of the country, a young turkey grower was told by a processor representative, in confidence, that the plant was stacked so high with turkeys the price was bound to drop drastically any day. On the strength of this, the grower sold his birds for

less than cost (about 20 cents a pound) because he couldn't afford to have them left on his hands. Being new at the game and wanting to learn, the grower traced a consignment of his turkeys right through to the retail store. He found that between them the processor and retailer were taking about 30 cents a pound. In fact, it turned out turkeys were in short supply at that time.

The result—another recruit for that growing army of those who favor producer marketing boards. For one function of such an agency would be to gather information on supply so growers will no longer be panicked into selling at less than cost.

In the fable, the king killed the goose because he wasn't satisfied with a reasonable return. He didn't see his mistake until after the source of supply had gone. V

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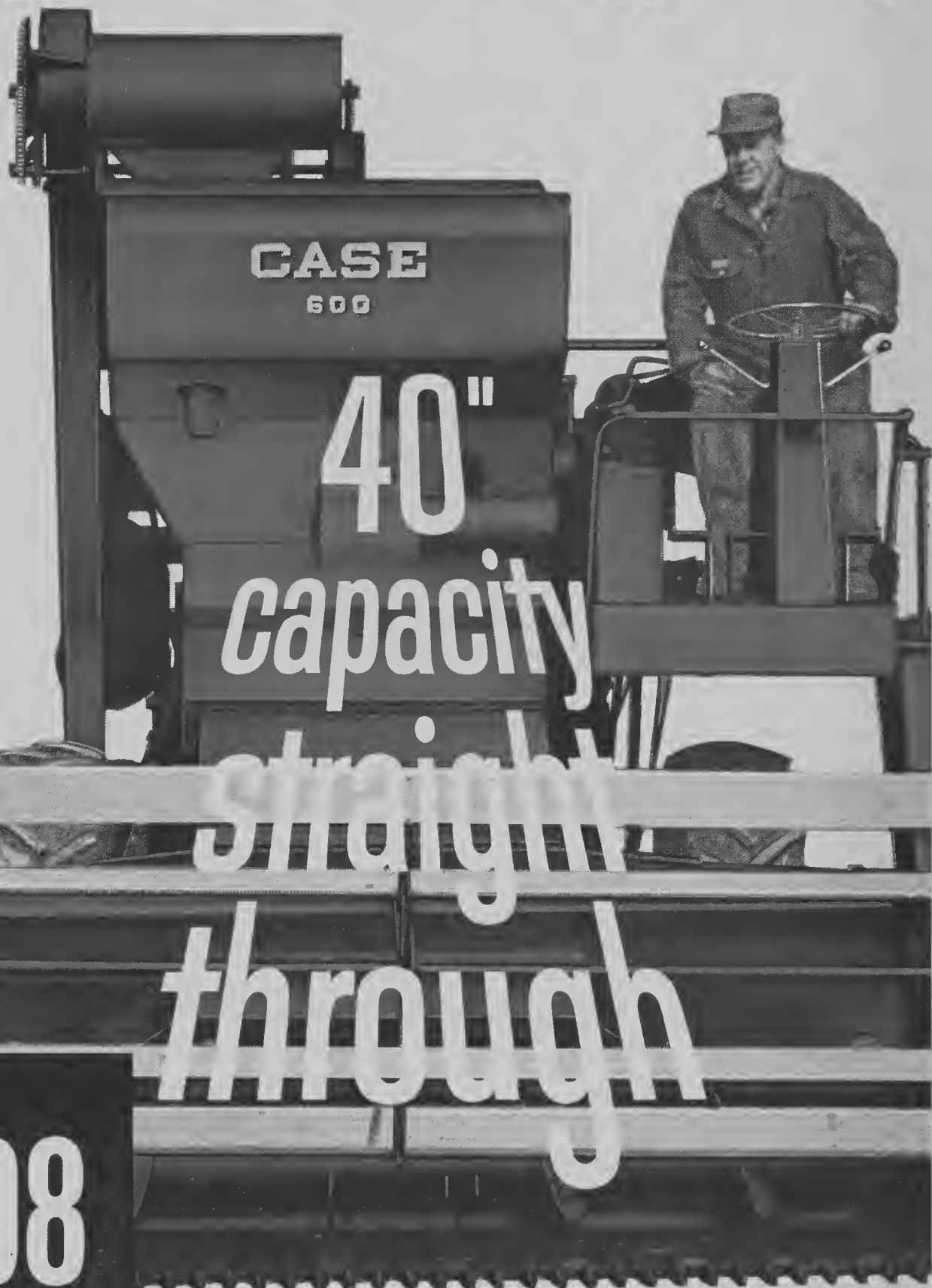
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What's Happening

MORE ABOUT DAIRY POLICY

Butter. Payment of the previously announced subsidy will be made on proof of manufacture rather than proof of sale. The Agricultural Stabilization Board has arranged with the trade to buy all manufactured butter according to grade and immediately sell it back to the manufacturer at a lower price. In addition, the Board will maintain its offer to purchase all butter that is surplus to

current needs on the basis of 52 cents a pound for Canada First Grade (40-93 score), Montreal.

Milk. The Board will continue the 25 cents per hundredweight stabilization payment for milk delivered to producers for manufacturing purposes. Shippers to fluid markets won't receive this payment.

Skim Milk Powder. The Government will buy this item as it becomes available during high production

months so as to build up reserves for emergency relief in Canada and abroad.

Cheese. Price support for cheese will be 32½ cents a pound for Canada First Grade cheddar made from milk which has not been heat treated or pasteurized (basis Montreal and Belleville). This will increase the Ontario support price by one-half cent, and the Quebec (Montreal) price by one cent. Quebec cheese will also be bought at approved points other than Montreal at an appropriate price differential.

The increase in the cheese support level was granted to compensate producers for the reduced value of whey butter. This places equal value on cheese made in Ontario and Quebec, something the latter and the Dairy Farmers of Canada have been asking for a long time. V

ASK SOYBEAN PRICE SUPPORT

The Ontario Soya-bean Growers' Marketing Board has asked for a support price of \$2.50 per bushel on the 1962 soybean crop, which is 37 cents per bushel higher than the 1961 price of \$2.13. The support price applies to the crop year July 1st to June 30th of the following year, and has been in effect since 1958. The asked-for price increase is realistic, says the Marketing Board, because of competing commodities and increasing production costs.

It is also pointed out that while domestic requirements for soybean oil and meal continues to rise, Canadian production has actually declined because of low prices. At present, consumption in this country exceeds production by two-thirds, the deficit being made up by imports from the United States. V

WHEAT PAYMENT ADJUSTMENT

Agriculture Minister Hamilton has announced that cheques covering adjustment payments on Western wheat delivered in 1961-62 have now been issued to producers. The adjustment was for 10 cents a bushel on wheat and 75 cents a bushel on durum. Saskatchewan received \$12,823,573, Alberta \$5,552,021 and Manitoba \$2,095,907, for a total of \$20,471,501. V

MANITOBA CROP INSURANCE

Crop insurance premium rates to be used by the Manitoba Crop Insurance Corporation in 1962 have now been approved. These rates and coverage are based on long-term average yields, taking into consideration the soil types in each insurance area. In the Manitoba scheme, insurance is provided for wheat, oats, barley, flax and sugar beets under the Federal Crop Insurance Act. V

HONEY TO GET ONE CENT

A deficiency payment of one cent per pound is to be paid to eligible honey producers for graded extracted honey sold during the year ending June 30, 1961, Agriculture Minister Hamilton has announced. The stabilization board has calculated the average price per pound to producers for 1960-61 at 12.5 cents. The support price for the period was 13.5 cents. V

NEW NATIONAL DAIRY PRESIDENT

J. B. Lemoine, Montreal, has resigned as president of the Dairy Farmers of Canada. He is succeeded by John K. Dickson, Ormstown, P.Q., former vice-president. Mr.



J. B. Lemoine (l.) and J. K. Dickson.

Lemoine resigned to run as Liberal candidate for the seat of St. Hyacinthe-Bagot in the coming Federal election.

His successor, Mr. Dickson, is a dairy farmer who has been active in community affairs and farm organizations for most of his adult life. V

WHEAT PRODUCTION SCHOLARSHIP

The Ontario Wheat Producers' Marketing Board has established a scholarship within the Dept. of Agricultural Economics, O.A.C., Guelph, to do research in the field of wheat production and marketing in Ontario. The scholarship will include research into the use of Ontario winter wheat in the feeds industry and related areas of importance to Ontario's 26,000 wheat producers. It covers a one year period, effective September 1962, and will be awarded to an eligible student candidate for the Master of Science in Agriculture degree. V

POTATO IMPORT VALUE MODIFIED

Agriculture Minister Hamilton has announced removal of fixed values on imported potatoes for duty purposes. Last year fixed values were imposed at the request of the Canadian Horticultural Council. This year, the Council requested its removal because Prairie farmers need seed following a poor crop last year, and transportation costs do not make it practical to supply this demand from surplus stocks in the Maritimes. V

ARGENTINA SHORT OF WHEAT

Wheat exports from Argentina have been banned for at least 60 days to ensure enough for domestic use. Bread prices are said to have risen 20 per cent.

The government has announced that Argentina won't be able to fill her Brazilian wheat contract, and will have to refuse orders from Spain and China. Earlier this year Argentina signed a contract with Brazil to supply the latter with about 37 million bushels annually until 1964. V

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GUIDE POSTS

UP-TO-DATE
FARM MARKET
FORECASTS

PREPARE MORE LAMBS for an early market this summer and fall to take advantage of change to deficiency type of price supports. Late fall prices could sag badly and, while the government pays you the difference between the yearly average market price and support price, you will be money ahead to sell as many as possible before the heavy fall run.

BARLEY SUPPLIES are being used up quickly. It's still too early to assess new crop prospects with any certainty, but it's highly unlikely that we will produce a surplus. So prices will remain strong.

LOWER BUTTER PRICES at food stores will test housewives reaction. Margarine is still cheap by comparison and our eating habits may be so established that the switch may not be as great as hoped.

WHEAT EXPORTS will equal or exceed last season's. There could be a buyers' run on our limited supplies of high-quality product, and we could end up with near-record exports.

HOG PRICE PROSPECTS this summer look very good and a strong market will continue well into 1963. It may pay you to rebreed spring sows.

CORN PRICES will increase more than seasonally this summer, reflecting effects of devalued dollar. If growing conditions in the United States are only average rather than above, as last year, look for buoyant prices to remain this fall.

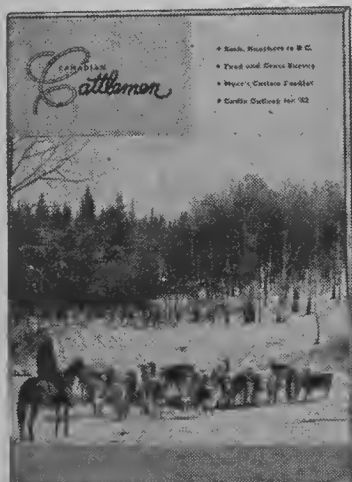
LAYING FLOCKS should be culled heavily this summer. Egg prices will remain low and feed costs higher than a year ago. The spring hatch is down 10 to 15 per cent. So fall and winter prices may be stronger.

WESTERN CALVES have been stocked by Ontario producers at a record rate since last summer. Don't rush for fall replacements yet as the 1962 North American supply will be about 5 per cent larger.

RAPESEED PRODUCTION will be down this fall because of reduced seeded acreage. There is a substantial carry-over in prospect, however, so enough should be available to keep our markets well supplied.

BROILER SUPPLY and price outlook is much improved from a year ago. Some expansion in output for late summer market may give reasonable returns.

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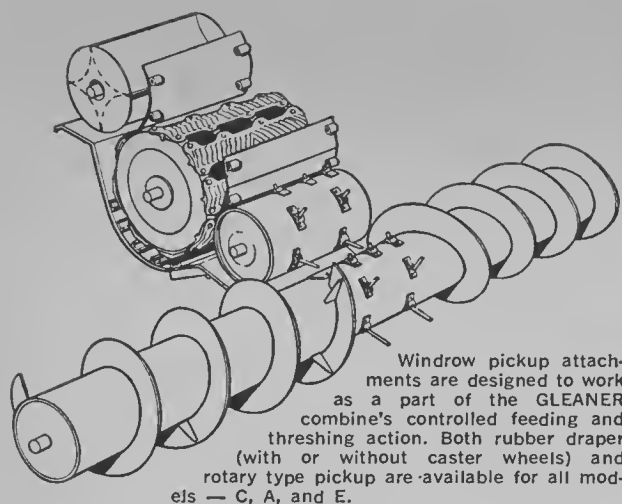
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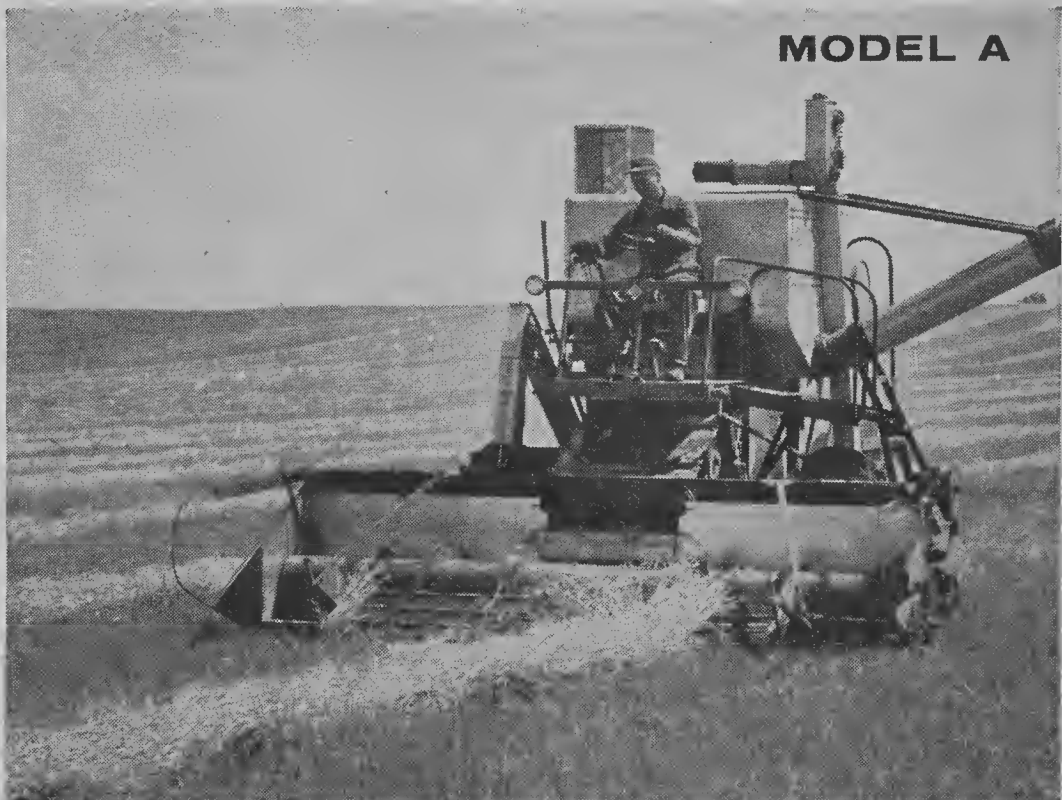
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Farm-Size Farrowing House

As farmers like Evert Aukema establish sow herds of up to 50 head, they need something new in farm buildings. A plan from Ridgetown is winning approval

by **DON BARON**
Field Editor

Evert Aukema

A NEW Canadian who immigrated from Holland in 1949, Evert Aukema has worked as a hired man, bought a 100-acre farm, and established a cash-cropping program in which he grows corn, soybeans and tobacco. Last year, for the first time, he turned his interest to livestock.

Why? He explains it this way. "On a farm like mine, where cash-cropping was the only enterprise, you could pay your bills and keep the business afloat. But you would never really get ahead. You've got to feed some of that grain to livestock to make it worth more, if you want to make progress."

Aukema set his sights on a sow herd, and called on engineers at the Western Ontario Agricultural School, Ridgetown, for advice on the kind of building he would require. A few months ago he built a farrowing barn. It is designed for a 48-sow herd. And already it's a building that has caught the interest of several other district hog men too.

Designed by Ridgetown engineers, it has plenty of cost and labor-saving features, yet the farrowing area is completely insulated and ventilated to provide complete comfort for the pigs. The plan can be modified to suit a herd of any size.

Aukema's neighbor, Stan Birkenshaw, used the plan to build accommodation for his herd of 15 to 20 sows. A few miles away at Eberts, Max Forsythe has built one as well.

THE basic plan calls for a pole-type structure, only 24 feet wide, so a simple truss supports the roof. Aukema's building is 88 feet long and it has 16 farrowing pens—enough for his 48-sow

herd, under a continuous year-round farrowing program. To cut costs, Aukema and a hired carpenter built it themselves. A contractor would have done it for slightly over \$5,000.

The farrowing part of Aukema's barn, with its 16 pens, is 64 feet long, and is completely enclosed and insulated. Sows leave the pens twice a day, and go to the open part of the building at the east end to be fed.

Aukema has not yet built his herd to its ultimate size of 48 sows. But when he does, he will have to plan his farrowing program carefully. He will have only one pen for every 3 sows, so he will require a succession of sows going into those farrowing pens, bringing their litters to weaning age, and then moving out to make way for the next sows. He should be able to produce and sell 800 weaner pigs a year.

Stan Birkenshaw

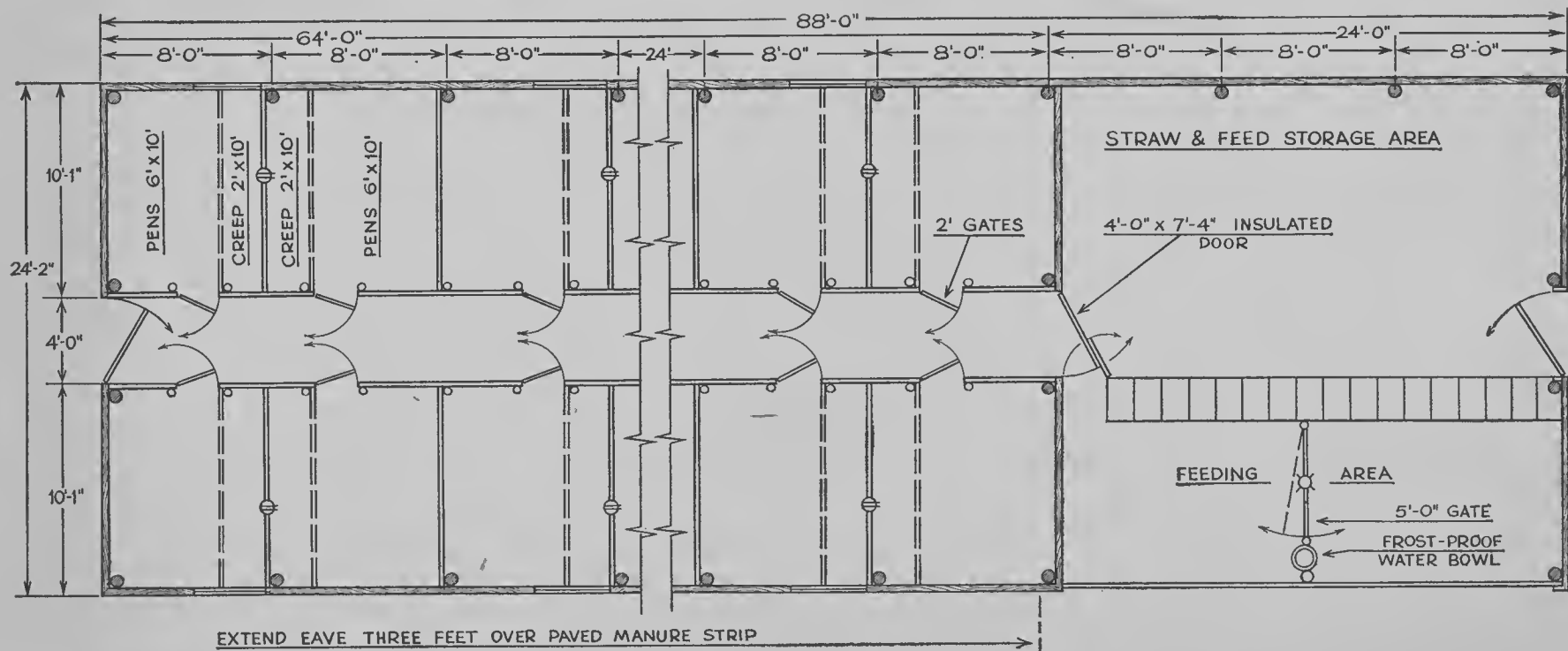
While Aukema is a new convert to the idea of livestock on a cash-crop farm, Stan Birkenshaw has already proved to himself, on his 135-acre farm, that livestock are essential on such a farm. He explains: "You can grow corn and wheat, and have the cheapest livestock feed it's possible to get. But you can't afford to sell it. Feed it to cattle and pigs, and you increase its value. Then you won't have to worry too much about the cost-price squeeze, or about those corporation farms we hear about. No matter how big and how integrated these fellows get, they can't beat you. This grain and livestock program is made to order for farmers today."

That comment just about explains why all three of these farmers, Aukema, Forsythe, and Birkenshaw, have built their new farrowing houses. ✓

What This System Has to Offer

- Cost: less than \$100 per sow for Aukema.
- Labor-saving: sows leave most of their manure outside.
- Completely insulated and ventilated.
- Easily enlarged, because of pole-type construction, by simply adding more posts at 8 ft. intervals, on either end, and enclosing.
- One central alley 4 ft. wide, acts as a service alley for workers and for moving the sows.
- Farrowing crate is installed in any pen, simply by sliding a partition into place.
- Farrowing pens are only 10 ft. by 6 ft. in size, with an additional 2 ft. section beside each pen, partitioned off as creep feeding and sleeping area for the young pigs.
- One pen for every 3 sows in the herd is sufficient under the continuous year-round farrowing system.
- Pen partitions can be removed, if necessary, to make double or triple sized pens where sows can run together.

Floor Plan of Unit for 48-Sow Herd



There are 8 farrowing pens on both sides of the insulated part of a full unit. The center section was omitted from this plan because all pens are the same. Sows are able to go to the open part of the building to feed twice daily. This plan, drawn up by engineers at Ridgetown, can be modified to suit any herd.

**Designed by Western Ontario
Agricultural College, Ridgetown**

Right: Aukema's 88 ft. house has 16 farrowing stalls in an insulated section. Sows feed in open area beside the feed and straw storage.

Below: left—Aukema slides partition across pen to form one side of the farrowing stall; center—2 ft. wide creep area for young pigs situated next to each pen; right — partition is removed to provide the 10 ft. by 6 ft. pens.



Feed area and straw storage.

[Gulde photos]



Farrowing stall.



Creep-feed area.



Full-size pen.



In addition to the farrowing barn on Aukema's farm, there is shelter for dry sows in an old building, and they also have this yard for exercising.

Hanging Doors



Bert Moggach of Ridgetown (r.) with Bob Forsythe, whose new farrowing barn has hanging doors fitted on the feeding area to break the wind.

Modified Version



Adapting the Ridgetown plan, Stan Birkenshaw has five farrowing pens down one side of his 40 ft. barn. The other side is partitioned into a feeding area for the nursing sows and a pen for the dry sows.



Birkenshaw feeds chopped corn and cob meal and concentrates on concrete floor of feeding pen.



Cheques for stockmen after auction sponsored by community.

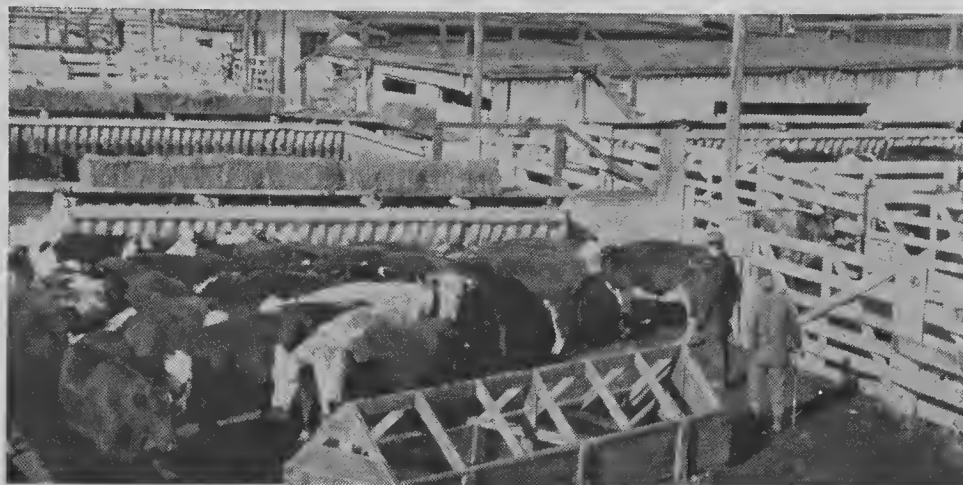


Packer's country buyer visits the farm and looks over cattle for direct purchase. [Guide photos]

Four Ways To Market Livestock



Inside a country auction barn, which is a public market in miniature.



Cattle being made ready for going into the auction ring at the public stockyard.

by **CLIFF FAULKNOR**
Field Editor

A COMMENT: A series of articles in the January Guide by Eastern Field Editor Don Baron stirred up a whole lot of interest in livestock marketing. Follow-up stories have appeared in each issue since. This month, Western Field Editor Cliff Faulknor contributes three pieces on livestock marketing as seen in the West.—Ed.

IN Western Canada, the livestock producer can sell his animals by any one of several methods: He can take his animals to a public stockyard, ship directly to a packing plant or sell to a buyer who takes delivery right on the farm. If he doesn't care for any of these, he can ship directly on export, sell through a community auction sale, or at auction barns scattered throughout most farming areas.

PUBLIC STOCKYARDS

The largest, and most familiar of these outlets is the public stockyard, or terminal market. On the Canadian prairies, they are situated on main railway lines at important shipping centers such as Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw and Winnipeg.

Public stockyards are equipped with facilities for receiving, unloading, boarding, selling and reshipping livestock. They are open and are designed to be competitive. Regulation is restricted to maintaining these features and to checking unfair practices. This control is exercised three ways: (1) by the stockyards' company which owns the facilities; (2) by a livestock exchange, composed of various commission agencies using the stockyards; and, (3) by Government regulations which cover weights, grade inspections and sanitation.

Provided it handles a sufficient volume of the trade, the public market sets prices for the whole livestock industry. These prices are arrived at through buying and selling by a large number of operators in open competition. *They are quoted*

by buyers in most of the other types of markets. Although they are affected in some degree by private buyer deals and producer organizations, market prices are mainly the result of that age-old economic see-saw team, demand and supply.

In practice, the public market functions like a wind-up clock. The stockyard company serves as the case and framework, while the daily flow of livestock is the spring that exerts pressure needed to run the "works," which are the various commission agencies. Acting as a sort of balance-wheel is the livestock dealer or broker. Unlike the commission merchants, the latter is licensed by the Federal Government to buy and sell animals at the yards on his own account. This freedom of operation enables the dealer to counter any temporary slackening in buyer demand with his own purchases.

When a producer sells his stock through the public yards he pays a fee of about \$1.50 a head. This pays for putting the animals through the ring, plus the paperwork involved. But with this fee he also buys a wealth of *experience*, market *information* and *protection* which only a public market can give him.

THE COUNTRY AUCTION

The Sale Barn or Country Auction operates like a public market in miniature. Buildings and facilities are provided by the owner, who also functions as the sales agency. Bidding in these markets is open and competitive, and could possibly have some effect in setting prices because of the large number of animals now being sold this way.

Country auctions are an outgrowth of improved roads and trucking facilities. Since 1952 they have grown in number, size and importance. Here, regulations are a provincial matter, and therefore conditions vary from one province to another. In Alberta, these auctions are licensed as "Class D Stockyards" and are governed by stiff regulations as to health, sanitation, sale statements, weighing, brand inspection and advertising. Although this adds greatly to the cost of doing business, most owners find this investment returned with interest through increased volume and buyer confidence.

Many producers like this type of outlet because it's close to them, which means reduced hauling charges and shrinkage. However, what a stockman saves in this manner could be lost through having a smaller number of buyers bidding on his livestock.

THE COMMUNITY AUCTION

A community auction company is a co-operative association composed of producers who feel they can do better if they market their own cattle. Generally located in smaller centers where no terminal yards are available, these groups hold periodic auction sales at either rented or owned yards throughout the cattle country.

The association is responsible for holding sales including hiring of auctioneers, weigh men, clerks and yard hands. It also represents the producer in the sales ring. You don't have to be a member to sell your stock at a community auction. The non-member pays the same entry fee and sales

commission as a member. The only difference is that the latter has a vote, and is entitled to share in each year's profits.

Unlike stock at most public markets, cattle at a community auction sale go directly from scales to the auction ring, instead of being weighed afterwards. By selling their stock co-operatively, producer-members have learned a good deal about marketing. One type of buyer they have attracted is the cattle feeder. Many Ontario buyers, looking for compact "typy" calves of good quality, are turning up regularly at western community auction sales.

DIRECT SELLING

Direct sales can be handled in any one of three ways: (1) selling to a traveling representative who buys livestock right on your farm; (2) selling to a packer's buying station, generally located on a main highway leading to a large trading center; or (3) by trucking your animals right to the door of the packing plant.

Some producers prefer direct selling because they don't have to pay any handling charges. They also feel their stock has less chance of getting battered and bruised if a third party is eliminated. Others, claim direct selling undermines the public market system, which was designed specifically to protect the producer.

Today's traveling buyer, or "country buyer"



This buying station, operated by a packer, takes 4,000 cattle, 2,200 calves, 12,000 hogs each year.

as he is generally called, is often a local resident who deals exclusively in his home territory. Usually, he is a stockman himself, either retired or still operating a part-time enterprise. Although he is obliged to make the best deal he can for his employers, the resident buyer has to balance this fact against a certain moral obligation to see that his friends and neighbors get a fair price for their livestock. This acts as a sort of safeguard for the producer, and is a great improvement over the

type of buyer who traveled from district to district some years ago.

In all forms of direct selling, however, it pays if the producer has skill and experience in dealing in livestock.

This is a brief summary of the marketing outlets that the livestock producer has in Western Canada. He must decide which of these, or any other alternatives, is best for himself and the industry as a whole. V

Hog Board for the West?

AT the present time Western hog producers don't show enough interest in competitive hog marketing to make a hog marketing board work. The main reason for this lack of interest is that many hog-producing prairie farmers treat it as a secondary industry. Another difficulty facing establishment of producer marketing boards in the West is the volume of inter-provincial and export sales. To handle these effectively, each province would need to have similar boards so that marketing plans could be integrated. These are some of the conclusions reached in a report of the Inter-Provincial Hog Marketing Committee, a special body set up to study this question.

How are Western hogs being marketed now? In all three prairie provinces, over 80 per cent of the hogs go direct to packing plants. Because hogs are being bought on a "rail grade" basis, many producers feel the public market place is an unnecessary stopover, which only leads to increased bruising and shrink. Most of the hogs go to market by truck and there is a growing tendency for the truckers to become packing firm "agents," both directly and indirectly. But, in many cases, price is established before shipment.

How are prices arrived at? In Manitoba and Saskatchewan, co-operative agencies, such as the Canadian Livestock Co-op at St. Boniface, and the Livestock Division of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, negotiate a price for all hogs not consigned to their public market agencies. Price is worked out on the "spread" between the Winnipeg and Toronto "basic price." When supplies are normal, Western Canada has accepted a price spread of 2½ to 4 cents between Montreal-Toronto and its own market centers. This differential applies to all hogs, including pork consumed on the Western domestic market.

Since 1958, the Alberta Livestock Co-operative has sold all its hogs by auction. Animals collected at country points are offered through Calgary and Edmonton public markets the day before they are assembled. When these hogs are sold, billing and shipping instructions go to the various co-op country agencies. Thus the sale of A.L.C. hogs establishes the price for all Alberta hogs, co-operative or otherwise.

Although the auction method of sale hasn't led to a better or more stable price than that obtained

Board marketing of hogs in Ontario has aroused new interest in this sales method. But indifference, outright opposition, and organizational problems hold back similar development in the West

in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, it has made A.L.C. animals available to all buyers. In the three prairie provinces, co-operative agencies now handle about 25 per cent of all hogs marketed.

COULD Western hog raisers improve their market by establishing a producer marketing board? To get some expert opinions on this, The Country Guide queried several prominent livestock men. Here are four who are actually engaged in the production or sale of commercial hogs in Western Canada:

George Winkelaar, Calgary, is general manager of the Alberta Livestock Co-operative Ltd. His association sold 389,254 hogs (about 24 per



George Winkelaar: "It's doubtful if marketing boards can presently be established in the West."

cent of total Alberta production) by the auction method for its members and affiliates last year.

"The apparent lack of interest in competitive hog marketing here," said George, "makes it doubtful that marketing boards can presently be established in the West. Our organization has

barely maintained its hog marketing volume in the face of rising direct-to-packer sales. The main difficulty has been either producer indifference, or our inability to convince them of the advantages of a marketing system which is wide open for anyone to see or to buy.

"Some of the bigger producers like direct sales because they figure their hogs don't get handled as much. Invariably these are people who are located fairly close to packing facilities. But why should they get special treatment? We have to think of what's best for everybody. If we had to depend on the big man alone, we'd soon run out of meat. The small producer supplies about 50 per cent of what we get."

Although Western hog men don't appear to be clamoring for a producer marketing board as yet, they are showing a greater interest in the welfare of their industry as a whole. Hog Producers' Associations have been set up in all three prairie provinces in the past 2 years.

Glen Flaten, who raises hogs and broilers just south of Regina, Sask., is a former livestock specialist with the Sask. Dept. of Agriculture. He is presently serving as president of the Saskatche-



Glen Flaten: "I would like to see just how the board's system works when there is a surplus."

wan Hog Producers' Association. Said Glen, "I don't think we need a marketing board yet. The situation which brought on the Ontario scheme doesn't exist here. For one thing, we couldn't operate with a provincial board—we would need a single agency for all three provinces. About a third of Saskatchewan's hogs are shipped outside.

"I'll agree the Ontario situation has improved with their teletype auction, but I don't like the wide price fluctuations which can take place in a single day. I would also like to see how their system works under varying conditions, especially when there's a surplus. I wonder if producers gain enough to pay that 40 cents per hog it costs to operate their marketing system?"

General feeling of the Sask. Hog Producers' Association is that the marketing situation needs a lot more study before any radical changes can be introduced in the West.

Jack Perkins, Wainwright, Alta., is president of the Western Hog Growers' Association, and a large producer of quality commercial hogs.



Jack Perkins: "I do not believe a board would bring farmers more over a period of 10 years."

"During the past few months I have noted several letters and articles on livestock marketing in The Country Guide," he said. "One would get the impression the idea of livestock marketing boards is gaining popularity among producers here. Such is not the case.

"I don't believe marketing boards would bring us more for our livestock over a period of 10 years. I believe we would net much less. On the other hand, I'll concede our present free marketing system isn't perfect. However, I believe it's much better than the hog marketing system in Ontario, both before and after the compulsory scheme came in.

"Not long ago I talked with one of those Ontario producers. He said sometimes his hogs go to a packing plant right behind the assembly yards, at other times they're shipped as far as 300 miles away. That means they won't be killed and dressed for 24 hours or more. The shrinkage loss can be as high as 15 per cent.

"On my place, the hogs are fed at 4:00 a.m. and on their way to the packers at 5:00 a.m. By 11:00 a.m. they're killed, dressed and graded—all with a minimum of handling and bruising. Before I would voluntarily take a 15 per cent loss—or any loss for that matter—I'd want to know I was going to get enough extra price to handle it.

"I understand the Manitoba Pool Elevators and the Manitoba Hog Producers are discussing proposals for improving the present marketing system. Herein lie our answers to our marketing problems. May I congratulate the people in Manitoba for being realistic and democratic in their approach."

Ted Boden, Cut Knife, Sask., is a commercial hog producer, and a director of the Sask. Wheat Pool. He is also chairman of the Inter-Provincial Hog Marketing Committee.

"If the producers in the Western provinces can agree to operate jointly by using provincial mar-



Ted Boden: "The Ontario Board has greatly improved the bargaining power of the producers."

keting legislation, plus Federal enabling legislation for export," he said, "then I agree the hog producers' bargaining power can be greatly enhanced by a marketing board. There isn't any doubt in my mind that the Ontario Hog Marketing Board has greatly improved the bargaining power of the Ontario hog producer.

"I believe the over-all Canadian hog marketing picture would certainly be more genuinely competitive as to price if the western producer would exert himself and work with Ontario and other eastern provinces. Packers rightfully claim the large retail chain stores exert concentrated buying power on them. If their necessary operating margins are to be maintained, naturally any necessary adjustment will be passed down and taken off the raw product price. A countervailing, or balance, in bargaining is obviously essential to protect primary producers. The price to the producer would then surely reflect a more proper relationship to that which the ultimate consumer is prepared to pay for pork in relation to other meats." —C.V.F.

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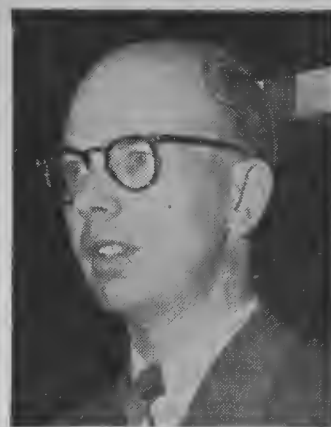
the Public Market



BERT HARGRAVE
"Edmonton direct buying is having an adverse effect on prices all over."



JAMES CAMERON
"A board that would bargain for a better price would be a good thing."



GORDON BURTON
"If we're smart enough to raise them, maybe we're smart enough to sell them."



TOM MYERS
"We sell about 95 per cent of all our cattle on public markets where buyers have a chance to bid on them. . . . As for eliminating anything, I'm against it."

While most western beef producers oppose marketing boards for their stock, they would prefer to have the bulk of the cattle sold through public stockyards, community or country auctions — any place where there is genuine price competition

facilities to areas where the production build-up is expected to occur. There has been a big increase in livestock slaughter on the Prairies, particularly in Alberta, but a decrease in both Eastern Canada and British Columbia.

FEW producers of any product would want market regulation when conditions are as favorable as this. But few would also claim that western marketing conditions are perfect, or couldn't be improved. Over the past few years there has been a significant growth in direct-to-packer sales which is having a depressing effect on public market receipts. In 1960, inspected cattle slaughter in Edmonton plants totalled 232,405 head, while the slaughter cattle sold through the Edmonton public market numbered only 77,357 head.

How this has quickly weakened the Calgary public market position can be seen by the figures below:

Alberta Public Market Receipts			
	Jan. 1-June 10 1960	Jan. 1-June 10 1961	% change
Calgary	120,248	104,142	-13.4
Lethbridge..	25,664	25,784	+ .5
Edmonton ..	52,952	57,118	+ 7.8
	198,864	187,044	- 5.9

Alberta Slaughter (same period)		
	187,017	227,533
		+21.7

A 13.4 per cent Calgary reduction in a period when total Alberta slaughtering showed an increase of 21.7 per cent!

Is this trend to direct buying having a bad effect on livestock prices?

"Yes," said Bert Hargrave, Walsh, Alta., a past president and long-time director of the Western Stock Growers' Association. "I think the Edmonton buying stations are having an adverse effect on cattle prices in a wider area than just the Edmonton market. This situation has probably been responsible for the increase in direct-to-packer shipments all over. They're also instrumental in the obvious increase in the number of packer-buyers active in the country. These extra buyers are no doubt needed to attend all the extra sales. But they are being kept pretty busy for their companies between sales!"

"Maintaining these buyers is a costly business," said George Winkelaar, general manager of the Alberta Livestock Co-operative Ltd. (a producer selling agency which operates through the public markets) "and somebody has to pay for it. Pro-

DON McKINNON
"We don't claim our method is faultless, but I'm sure any necessary changes can be worked out within the framework of our present system."



ducers who sell direct don't realize who sets the price for their private sales. These prices don't just come out of thin air!"

MOST of the livestock producers queried would like to see a greater volume of cattle going through public stockyards, community or country auctions—any place where there is genuine competition in price. Yet, none of them would care to see direct sales eliminated by law.

Said Tom Myers, large-scale cattle feeder of Houghton, Sask.:

"We sell about 95 per cent of all our cattle on public markets where buyers have a chance to bid on them. But, over the years, I have found it's rather nice to have a direct packer connection. If we send a few loads to the packing houses now and then, it seems to make our cattle more desirable to the public market. As for eliminating anything, I'm against it."

D. J. McKinnon, Calgary, rancher, cattle feeder, and for 10 years president of the Council of Canadian Beef Producers, is also against compulsion in any phase of the beef market. "We don't claim our method is faultless, but I'm sure any necessary changes can be worked out within the framework of our present system," he said.

Many appeared to favor an educational program to acquaint producers with the advantage of having the bulk of their cattle sold by public auction.

W.S.G.A. director, Dr. Gordon Burton, Claresholm, Alta., who sells most of his animals at public stockyards, community auctions and local auction sales, sometimes has a country buyer buy cattle from his feedlot. (Please turn to next page)

UNLIKE western hog producers, western beefmen are not indifferent to producer marketing boards—they vigorously oppose them! Even those outside the industry, who approve of board marketing in principle, concede there is little chance of beefmen agreeing to any compulsory market regulation in the West.

There are good reasons for this. One, is the nature of the product itself. Beef and hog marketings don't have the same problems. Hogs are a standard product with prices based on set grades. As one buyer said, "It's almost like buying a can of peas." The hog producer is in a much more vulnerable position too. When a hog reaches a certain weight it must be sold.

But the beef cattle buyer has a wide range of types and grades to deal with—there are even weights and qualities within grades. For instance, take stock cows (calves within a month), fed cows (been on feed), old dairy cows (cutters and canners), distress cows (poor shape, cripples, etc.), bred heifers and Bang's condemned cows (for slaughter only). Here we have six different categories, each needing a different type of buyer, yet this is a relatively unimportant sector of the beef market.

There are at least six steer classes, and an even larger range of calf and heifer types. These categories can also change with the area, season, or feed and water conditions.

Another reason Prairie beefmen don't want any market interference is that prices and demand for their product has remained high. Situated as they are between the livestock deficiency areas of Eastern Canada and the Pacific Coast (not to mention the big Corn Belt feeder market to the south) there is every reason to believe they will enjoy favorable market conditions for some time to come. The Gordon Commission, and the more recent Resources for Tomorrow Conference, indicated this when they decided Western Canada was the only area able to take care of the needed increase to meet future demands.

Practical evidence to support this is found in the steady shift of slaughtering and processing

"This is generally a sign the supply is short and prices are on the way up," he said. "But I think any producer would be unwise to ship directly to a packer without having first made a deal as to price and delivery conditions, such as stand and shrink."

Dr. Burton is opposed to any form of compulsory marketing which would give either a Government or producer board arbitrary powers to fix the time, place and price of selling.

"The beef raiser frequently has to sell his stock because of weather

conditions," he said. "If he were forced to wait for Board permission, he could suffer heavy losses. I say if we're smart enough to raise them, maybe we're smart enough to sell them too," he concluded.

ON the other hand, James Cameron of Youngstown, a beef producer and director of District 11, Farmers' Union of Alberta, favors the idea of a beef marketing board. Although most of his members don't appear too interested in one now, he feels the time will come when they'll be glad to consider the idea.

"In my opinion a board that would

bargain for a better price would be a good thing," he said. "At least we should give the question a lot of study before rejecting it. After all, the Wheat Board is a form of marketing board, and it has worked well for us. We want some method of selling which will give us every last cent we can get for what we produce.

"One reason I favor taking a good look at marketing boards," he added with a twinkle, "is that packing concerns appear to be so strongly against them."

In his own business, Mr. Cameron has found he runs into a wide price

fluctuation by "shopping around" from one auction sale to another (he's located 200 miles from the nearest public stockyard). He feels a marketing board would be able to fulfill this function for the producer on a province-wide scale.

He also thinks public auctions are possibly not quite as competitive as they could be. There's still too much opportunity for packer-buyers to co-operate in keeping prices down. However, until such a time as we have a beef marketing board, Mr. Cameron would like to see all sales channeled through public auction markets.—C.V.F.

Ron Robinson answers young farmers' questions

THEY LIKE THE LOW COST OF THE FIR PLYWOOD RIGID FRAME BUILDING

I've talked to many young farmers about the Fir Plywood Rigid Frame Building. Their many questions reflect the widespread interest aroused by the Rigid Frame System since it was introduced to Canadian farmers in 1955. Here are five of those questions and my replies about this farm building.

1. With my limited capital I need a building that can be made of readily available, low-cost materials. What is the figure for the Rigid Frame Building?

83c per sq. ft. (including the cost of cement for foundations) was given by a farming magazine this year in an article comparing five different types of building. (That figure may vary slightly from one area to another.) It's one of the lowest cost clear span buildings of any kind. Complete plans and all the materials are available from your lumber dealer.

2. With big mortgage payments to make, I can't afford outside labour for building construction. How much is needed in this case?

None. Farm labour, hammers and saws are all you need. The plans are easy to follow. Construction is quick. Rigid Frame Buildings of over 2200 sq. ft. have been constructed in 140 man-hours.

3. My farm is unusually exposed to strong winds. We also get hot sun, ice and snow. How does the Rigid Frame Building stand up to climatic extremes?

Very well indeed. The strength and rigidity of cross-laminated Fir Plywood added to lumber framing make a highly rack-resistant building. Fir Plywood is permanently bonded with waterproof glue. There are few joints because the panels cover large areas. All this means that the Rigid Frame building remains weathertight and draught-free in all weather. Also, wood has less thermal conductivity than metal or concrete, so there's less interior condensation, summer heat and winter cold. Therefore your livestock and poultry are housed under healthier conditions. Further insulation can easily be added.

4. Is the Rigid Frame Building adaptable to varying seasonal and market demands—and to any changes I might make when I take over management of my father's farm?

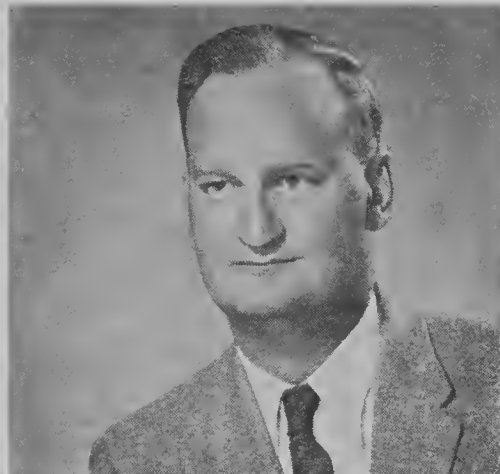
It certainly is. In a clear-span building there are no posts or low beams to restrict layout alterations. With a width of up to 40 ft. and practically any length, there's plenty of room to manoeuvre and store the largest farm vehicles. You can have almost any arrangement for housing cattle, pigs or poultry—or for storing fruit, grain or feed.

5. I shall be farming for another 30 years or more, and I want a building that will still cost little in maintenance and repairs when I hand it over to my son. How high are those costs with the Rigid Frame Building?

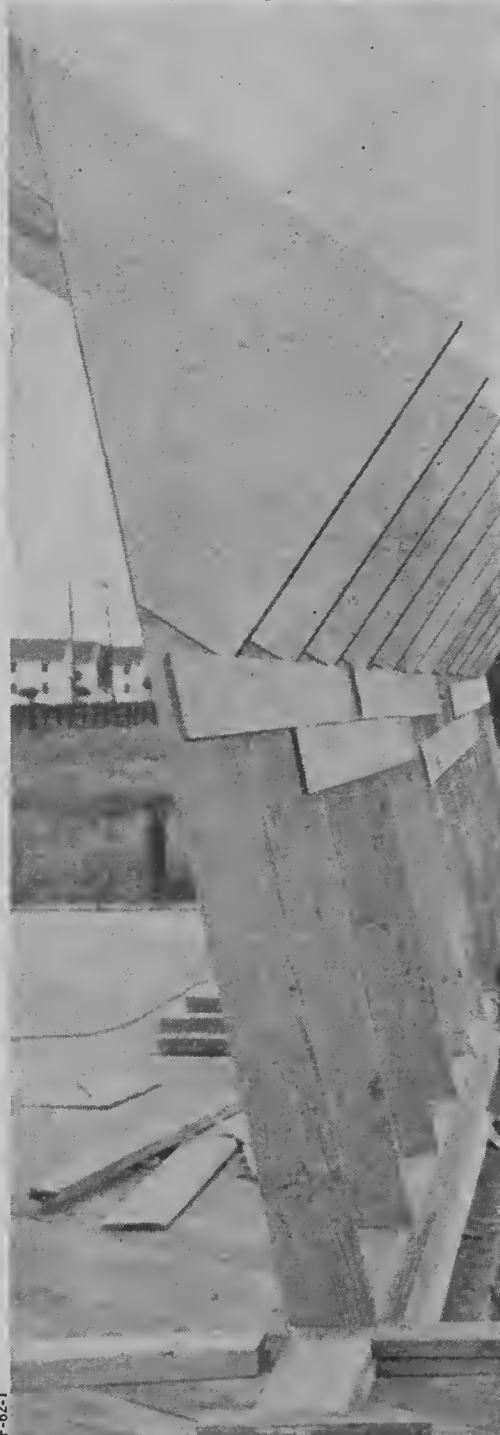
Maintenance and depreciation are low. Cleaning, painting and staining are quickly and easily done because Fir Plywood panels are smooth and big. They are strong and resilient enough to take many years of hard daily use. If you take initial cost, usefulness, maintenance, depreciation and life expectancy into account, the Fir Plywood Rigid Frame Building rates as the best farm building for the lowest annual cost. It is a very sound investment, and well worth discussing with your lumber dealer.

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R. L. Robinson, B.E. (Agricultural Engineer)



Beet Tops High in Carotene

BEET tops are palatable and have quite a high feeding value for cattle and sheep, especially if this feed is made into silage. L. M. Bezeau of the Lethbridge Research Station, Alta., says that it's wasteful to turn livestock into the field after the beet harvest, as many tops are trampled into the ground and the animals consume a lot of dirt. Another argument for silage is that field-dried beet tops lose some nutritive value and the leaves will shatter. In addition, there's often wet weather to contend with at harvest time.

Beet-top silage samples tested at Lethbridge yielded 81.3 per cent moisture, 2.6 protein, 2.3 crude fiber, 5.7 ash, 0.25 calcium, 0.07 phosphorus, plus carotene at 8.7 milligrams per lb. Two of these are of special interest. The big ash content is caused by dirt, which can be reduced by proper handling. The carotene is relatively high, too, and 2 lb. of beet-top silage will provide the daily requirement of vitamin A for a 1,000-lb. steer.

Be careful if feeding beet-top silage. It is laxative and adhering dirt tends to make it more so. It is also high in oxalic acid, which is a source of urinary calculi. You can counteract these problems with 2 ounces of ground limestone with each 100 lb. of silage. In addition, never feed beet-top silage as the only roughage, but always with some hay.

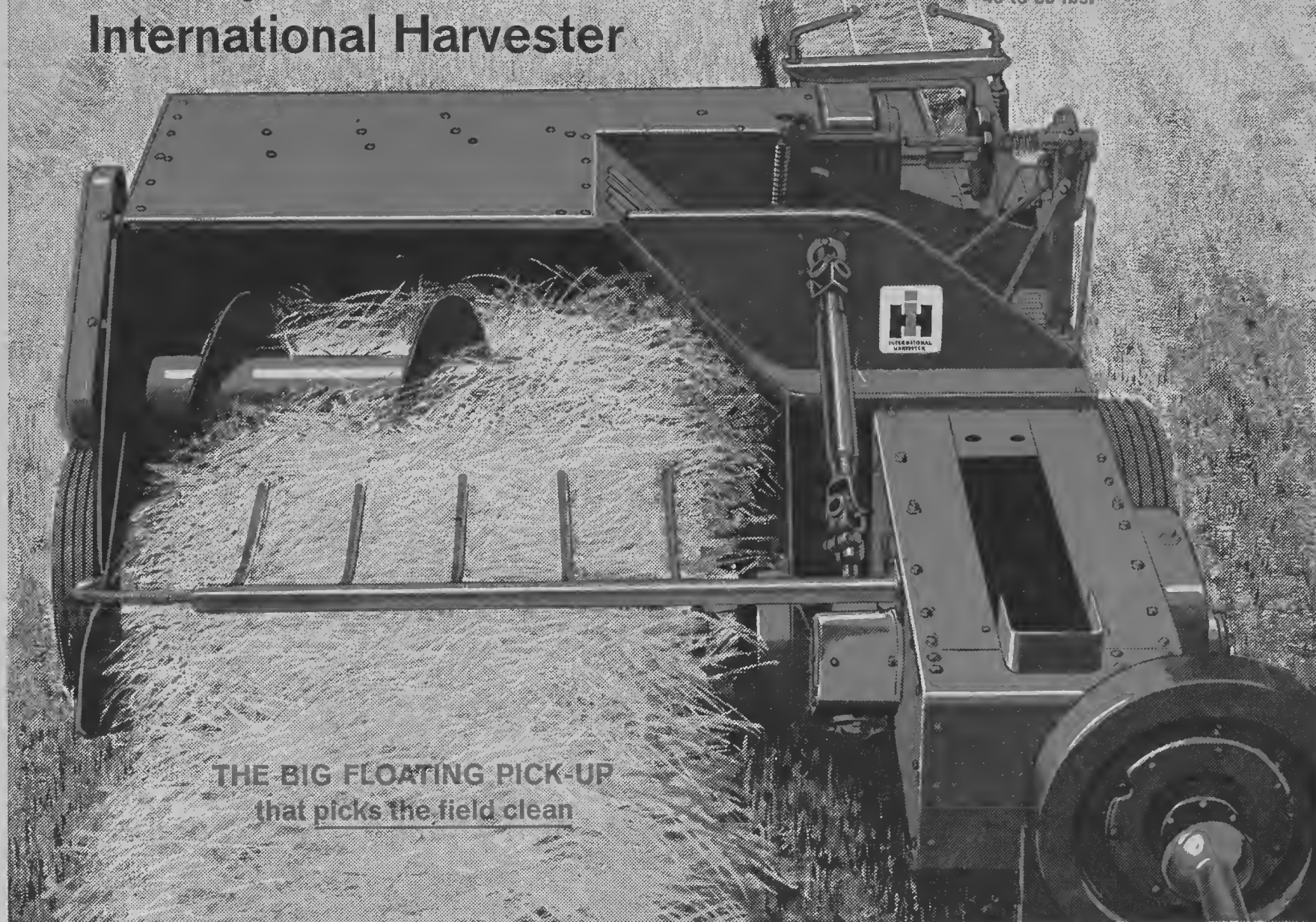
It is estimated that a ton of beets produce about 900 lb. of beet-top silage. This, if free of dirt, well ensiled, and fed as part of a balanced ration, is equal in feeding value to 25 lb. of barley and 100 lb. of alfalfa hay. This means that 900 lb. of beet tops are worth about \$1.75, or about \$26.25 per acre. Cost of hauling between farms will reduce the value.



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No. 45

by CLARENCE TILLENIUS



THEIR nest was far up in the jackpine. We might not have seen it, but a high pitched *kree-kree-kree* repeated incessantly and with such intensity could only mean one thing—a pigeon hawk's nest—and nearby.

It was not easy to find, even so. An hour or more struggling through jackpine deadfalls, climbing over granite ledges and scrambling through thick patches of juniper yielded no result. Each time the birds would follow, swooping and darting until finally a falling off in the intensity of their pursuit indicated that they thought danger had moved far enough from the nest to allay their fears.

A period of quiet would follow, while we retraced our steps until, when we passed near the original starting point, the birds grew uncontrollably excited. By this we knew

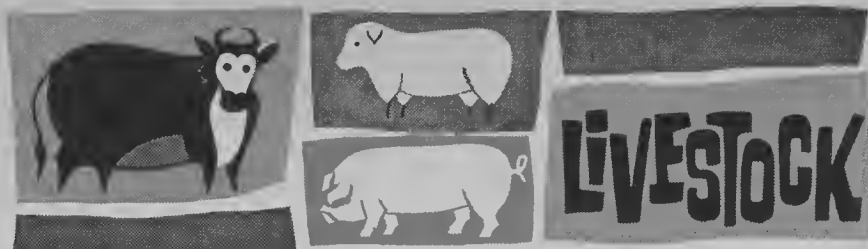
the nest must be near; yet we still could not discover it.

Suddenly the female, slightly the larger, swooped and with a whizzing rush swept by my head so close the flashing pinions almost brushed my ear. With another shrill cry, she banked, wheeled, and swooped again.

Then I saw it. Immediately in front of us, in a jackpine about 40 feet up was a dark mass of twigs and moss, apparently a refurbished crow's nest. The home tree—no question—but how to climb it? Smooth trunk, first branch about 15 feet from the ground. Dilemma.

Then a solution. Across some junipers, crushing them down, was a fallen tree-top, covered with branch stubs. With this improvised ladder it was little trouble to reach the nest. Two downy white hawklets hissed and gaped: interested only in food, uncaring that in a few months they too would whizz and dive like their parents who now swung around our heads like a pair of feathered comets.





Abortion Outbreak! Look to Leptospirosis

Disease is creating a serious problem in Central Canada herds

AN infection with the tongue-twisting name of leptospirosis has become the number one cause of infectious abortion among cattle and swine in Ontario, and probably Quebec as well. According to Dr. N. A. Fish of the Ontario Veterinary College, the disease seems to be on the increase.

Last fall saw the most extensive outbreak so far. A total of 1,322 cattle herds, where abortion had struck, were examined and 25 per cent of them were found to be infected with lepto. About one-third of all abortions reported by veterinarians are being traced to this disease—a higher rate than brucellosis ever reached. The same disease is a serious swine problem too. Of 76 swine herds examined in the past year because of abortion, still-born pigs, or small litters, 33 per cent were infected with lepto.

The disease apparently hasn't hit herds in Western Canada or the Maritimes yet, but it has reached serious proportions in the United States.

According to Dr. Fish, it is a seasonal disease in Ontario. Outbreaks occur from July through to December in cattle herds, and extend on through to February, or later, in swine. The abortions usually occur in the latter stages of pregnancy, and might run as high as 20 per cent in the herd. Calves up to 6 or 8 months old can get the infection too.

The only sure diagnosis is through a blood test conducted by a veterinarian. But infected animals may show fever, lack of appetite, bloody urine, labored breathing, and yellow eye and mouth mucous. For milk cows, the milk flow might almost cease, with the milk taking on a red-

dish or yellow color, and the udder going soft and limp.

HOW is it spread? Infected or carrier animals, brought into the herd, can trigger an outbreak. But scientists at the O.V.C. are working hard on another theory too, for outbreaks have often occurred in herds which were never exposed to infected cattle.

Suspected culprits in such infections are deer and other wildlife. In fact, it is now known that deer can harbor the infection in their kidneys for months, with little apparent ill effect on themselves. Yet during this time, they are continually shedding the disease organisms in their urine. Scientists know that these organisms can live for weeks outside the animal's body in quiet pools and marshes. They suspect that marshes and ponds over which the deer range in summer become sources of infection, where cattle can pick up the disease.

Other wildlife, like raccoons, groundhogs, and rats are known to carry the disease as well. As a result, control or prevention of lepto presents unusual problems.

Dr. Fish says that a simple blood test will identify the infection in domestic animals. As a result, there is little excuse for introducing the disease to a herd through newly purchased livestock. When it comes to preventing infection from wildlife, the matter becomes more difficult. However, he does suggest the following measures that could be helpful in areas where the disease is known to be a problem.

- Fence pregnant heifers and cows out of swampy areas.

(Please turn to next page)



Leptospirosis is the main cause of cattle and swine abortions in Central Canada. Blood tests can prevent lepto entering herds through new animals.

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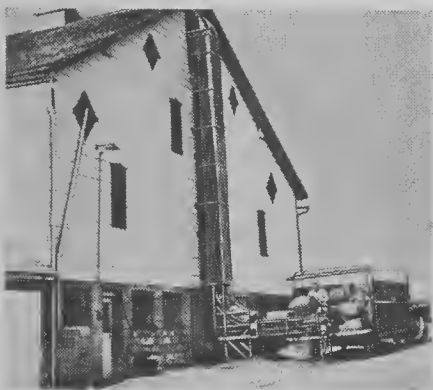
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LIVESTOCK

- Drain fields of surface water.
- Fence farm ponds, and use tanks to water the herd.
- Restrict movement of animals during the rainy season.

What about vaccination? Its value is questionable. For one thing, it is impossible to predict where leptospirosis will strike. It can hit one farm and completely miss an adjoining one. Furthermore, vaccines that are now available are not too satisfactory.

Once the disease is diagnosed through a blood test, treatment of infected animals with antibiotics can be very effective in eliminating the disease organisms from the kidneys. —D.R.B. ✓

How to Find A Good Boar

BUYING a sire replacement for your swine herd? Consider the present faults of your sows, and then try to select a boar that will correct these faults, suggests Garnet Norrish of the Ontario Agricultural College.

Mr. Norrish says the best way to find out what a boar can do is to look at the results of ROP tests. Here's a summary of the main points to look for when making a purchase:

- The reputation of the man selling the boar.
- The number of litter-mates of the boar.
- The general health of the herd.
- The Record of Performance of litter-mates or sire, or dam. Consider carcass scores of tested individuals, their maturity, and feed efficiency.
- See that the boar has strong feet and legs.

A survey has indicated, said Mr. Norrish, that boars with low ROP scores reduce the percentage of Grade A pigs from 50 per cent in the

first generation to 23 per cent in the second, and only 9 per cent in the third generation. Continued use of boars with high ROP scores has improved percentage of grade A pigs from 66 per cent to 69 per cent, then to 81 per cent in three generations. ✓

How Much Should Supplements Cost?

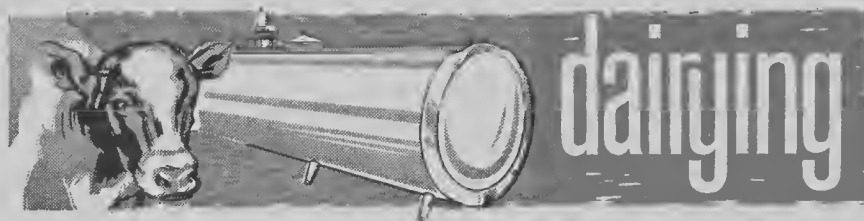
FEED supplements for cattle can be provided quite simply and inexpensively. Bruce Owen of the University of Saskatchewan says that the required minerals (salt, calcium and phosphorus) can be given in a mixture of 65 lb. of bone meal, 5 lb. of ground limestone, and 30 lb. of cobalt-iodized (blue) salt. The mixture should be fed ad lib., with extra salt in a separate container.

The cost of this mineral supplement is about \$6 per 100 lb. The cost of meeting the requirements of any class of beef cattle with such a mixture (plus extra salt) will not exceed 1½ cents per head per day. Milking dairy cows need somewhat more mineral supplement than beef cattle do.

Vitamin A, when needed to supplement deficiency hay or pasture, should be provided as dry, stabilized synthetic vitamin A, unless extra protein is necessary, and a commercial protein supplement containing vitamin A is used.

The cost of providing vitamin A with one of the synthetic products may be as low as ½ cent per head per day if the farmer does his own premixing, and it should not exceed 1½ cents when a commercial, pelleted vitamin A supplement is used. Injectable or water dispensable vitamin A supplements are useful in certain circumstances, but are more expensive.

Stockmen are advised to evaluate mineral and vitamin supplements as to costs and potency. Bruce Owen says the above prices are reasonable, and there is no need to pay more. ✓



Keep Cattle Out of Wind and Mud

These Alberta dairymen planned a layout to make their herd comfortable

DOES it pay to concrete the floor of a livestock holding or feeding area? Ask dairymen George and Bill Hilton of Midnapore, Alta., and they'll tell you they wouldn't want to operate without it.

"It's worth a lot to get rid of that build-up of mud and manure around the feeders," said George. "If I were planning another place I'd almost be inclined to cement the yard first, then put up my buildings around it. It's important to keep your animals as clean and dry as possible."

The Hiltons—who milk about 50 Holsteins out of a total of 100 —remodeled their old stanchion barn about 2 years ago in favor of loose housing. Their barn now contains grain storage (in the loft), a holding area, a 4-place milking parlor and a bulk-tank room, but no cows.

The latter are housed in an open-front loafing shed, which is attached to the barn on the east, and there is a long covered manger on the west. This forms a solid line of buildings on three sides so as to protect the

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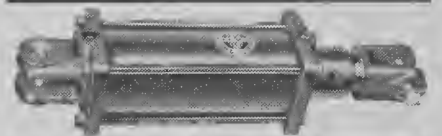
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Most amazing of all—results were so thorough that sufferers made statements like "Piles have ceased to be a problem!"

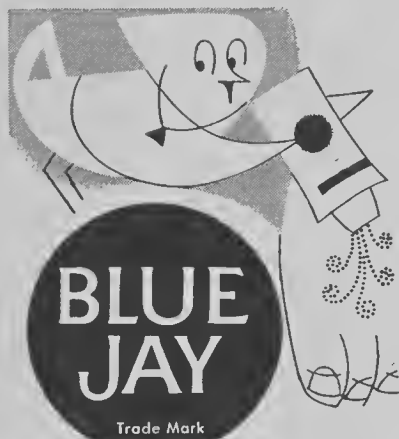
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Milking herd in the yard with the loafing shed and bedding storage behind. [Guide photos

animals from prevailing winds. Additional warmth is provided by bales of bedding straw which are stacked along the north wall of the loafing shed. A whole winter's supply of bedding can be stored here.

"Our cows have been a lot healthier since we moved them outside," Bill Hilton said. "But we had to do something about that wind. It makes the cows feel miserable and they don't produce so well."

THE brothers feed a ration of hay and wet brewer's grains in the outdoor manger. A 2-weeks' supply of hay is kept on a ramp at the back of this structure where it can easily be forked in. Hay is put into the manger in the morning and at night. The brewer's grains are fed at noon. Each cow gets her ration of concentrate during milking. This moves by gravity flow from bins above the milking parlor into metered feed boxes located in each stall.

"We traveled all over the country looking at dairy layouts before we built this place," Bill told The Country Guide. "But no matter how much planning you do, you never get it just right. Once you start operating you can see things you'd change if you were doing the job over."

One thing the Hiltons would like to do is to lower the level of stalls in their milking parlor so cows won't have to go up and down steep ramps. This would mean sinking the pit down a couple of steps. Another change scheduled is to move the holding area outside where the air can get at it, and manure can be

allowed to build up to provide extra warmth.

"When it's inside, there's a lot of condensation," said George. "It has to be cleaned out every day or it gets cold and damp."—C.V.F. v



Bill Hilton says cows are healthier outside—if protected against wind.

How to Fight White Scours

WHITE scours, a bacterial infection, can be fatal in many cases. To fight the disease, says Dr. D. Dale of Macdonald College, Que., the new-born calf should get the colostrum milk because it is not born with antibodies against the disease. Here are some more recommendations:

- The calf should be born in a well-bedded, clean boxstall.
- High-potency vitamin A and D capsules should be given to it right after birth, when the dam is low in vitamin A.

• Paint the navel with tincture of iodine to prevent entry of organisms.

• The antibiotic bolus is a good thing to have on hand in problem herds. But sensitivity of infecting organisms to antibiotics may differ from area to area, so a vet should be consulted.

• Scours appearing in dairy calves after 2 weeks are often due to over-feeding. This can be alleviated by cutting the amount of milk fed. Antibiotics can be used if the condition persists.

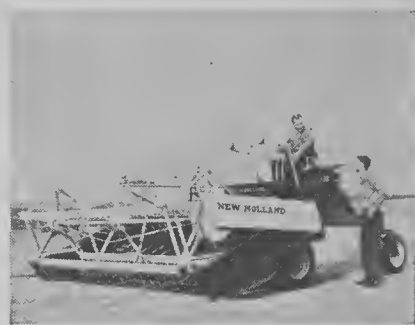
• Older calves of 4 to 5 months should be examined by a vet, particularly if several are infected. A number of agents could cause the condition. v



G. Hilton with young son Edward.

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Robin-Nodwell Mfg. Ltd. announces the opening of a new warehouse in Edmonton at 12233-67th Street. The Edmonton warehouse opening is significant of Robin-Nodwell's new expansion policy—a progressive move designed to serve farm dealers more efficiently. Warehouses throughout their merchandising area now number four—greatly increasing the speed and economy of delivery.

Appointed Manager of the new Edmonton warehouse is Mr. James McCulloch. Telephone 474-5992 for immediate service.

Check **WORKSHOP** columns page 29 for ideas that may save time or money.

RUPTURE-EASER

(A Piper Brace Truss) ©

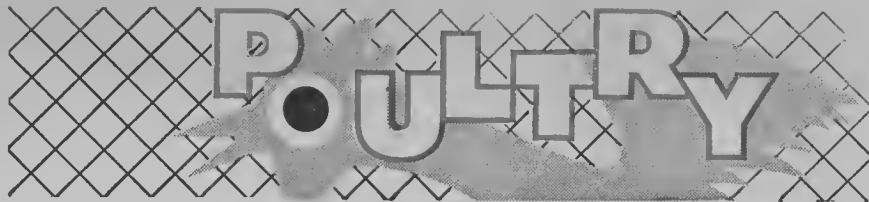


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Does It Pay To Raise Your Own Pullets?

There seems to be an increasing demand for ready-to-lay birds

by L. KAY, Ontario Poultry Farmer

MOST small flock owners with brooding equipment raise their pullets every year without giving much consideration as to whether it pays or not. But when the time comes that a brooder falls apart, or a colony house can no longer be used, they are faced with the question of whether to invest in equipment or ready-to-lay pullets.

If you consistently have "bad luck" with your broods, this is a good indication that you would be wise to leave the job to someone else. However, if you take an interest in this work and usually house a healthy, vigorous flock, it would be safe to say it will pay you to continue to raise your own layers.

Many farmers, or their wives, enjoy buying their day-old chicks from the hatchery and raising them to mature pullets, but there is an increasing number of poultrymen who prefer to leave this job to the hatchery or someone who makes a business of growing pullets. We know of several flockowners who previously have always raised their own chicks and who now buy ready-to-lay pullets. This trend seems to be on the increase this year and likely stems from the lower egg prices. If the outlook for eggs this fall is poor, some will not bother with hens, but if egg prices tend to climb, many of these farmers will be shopping around for ready-to-lay stock.

Besides the advantage of being able to wait and see what the egg prices will be like in the fall, other factors which influence farmers to buy mature stock may be the time and building space which are made available for other projects, and the fact that there will be less risk of losing birds through disease, or to marauding animals and birds of prey.

If you usually have trouble with chicks through the first few days or weeks, have you considered letting the hatchery raise them for 2 weeks for you? This will be the least expensive period and usually costs ½ cent per day per chick, or 8 cents for the 2-week period. Some don't care to do any brooding and purchase their chicks at 8 weeks of age when they are ready to go right to the range. This is also much less expensive than waiting to buy them ready to lay.

READY-TO-LAY pullets cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$2 (depending on the demand) and this is a lot harder to part with than the day-old chick price! When raising your own, the cost of feed adds up to a large figure too, but this is spread over a long period and

can be lessened by feeding a proportion of grain from an early age, and also by having a good range and letting the birds forage for their own high-priced vitamins and proteins.

It might be of interest to you to keep a record of the purchases you make for this year's flock so that you do know how much it costs you to raise them. Something should be added for labor, heat used for brooding, and a portion of the cost of the equipment.

We did this several years ago with some pullets which were raised to 16 weeks of age and sold at \$1.65 each. We needed the building for other stock, so did not keep them until they were 20 weeks old, when they would have been considered ready-to-lay and sold at \$2 each. They were raised indoors and fed confinement grower which would be more expensive than feeding on the range. Here's how it worked out:

1,100 chicks @ 30¢	\$ 330.00
Hydro-brooding @ 2¢ each	22.00
Shavings and straw for litter	13.25
Chick starter—6,650 lb. @ \$5.25	349.12
Grower—4,330 lb. @ \$4.75	204.25
Wheat—2,856 lb. @ \$64	91.36
Oats—2,545 lb. @ \$52	66.17
Grit	5.60
Labor @ \$1 per hour	90.00
	\$1,171.75

Since this was recorded several years ago, feed and grain prices are slightly out of line. Several expense items are not included, such as use of buildings and equipment, and cost of advertising the pullets and delivering them to the customer. Of course, some losses occurred during this 16-week period but we had over 1,000 pullets to sell and realized a profit of between 50¢ to 60¢ per bird, which is considered a reasonable return.

If pullets are offered too cheaply, it would be wise to investigate the offer thoroughly before jumping at it. There have been slick salesmen in and out of farms who will offer to buy your old hens and, for only a small additional cash outlay, bring back ready-to-lay pullets. This "deal" has been too good for many to pass up, and it is only when the salesman is going off down the lane with the old hens and the cash that it is realized there is no guarantee he will actually return with the pullets. It may take considerable work and worry to end up even on a "deal" like this!

When investing in ready-to-lay stock try to see the birds in daylight and be sure they are vigorous and healthy. An established, reliable grower will do his best to give you pullets that will please you, since he is hoping to have you for a customer the next season too.



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tion against overheating and neglect of routine care. And controlled pressurized lubrication maintains full-time oiling to working parts. Cooling fins and spark plugs are enclosed against damage, dirt, and condensation build-up.

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- ✓ **WEEDAR MCPA CONCENTRATE**—Amine formulation (64-oz. of 2-methyl-4-chlorophenoxyacetic acid per gallon), specifically recommended for controlling weeds in oats, flax, peas and newly seeded or established legumes. Safe, selective, especially tolerant to the crops.
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- ✓ **ACP GRASS KILLER (TCA 94%)**—A 94% sodium trichloracetate formulation used extensively throughout Western Canada for control of annual and perennial grasses in non-cropped lands, ditchbanks, fence rows, industrial areas, parking lots, railroad ballast and special crops such as flax, field peas, alfalfa and beets.
- ✓ **WEEDAZOL AMINO TRIAZOLE (AMITROL) WEED KILLER**—Weedone formulation for powerful killing action on hard-to-kill perennials that even withstand 2,4-D and 2,4-5-T weed killers. Effectively used to control Canada thistle, quack grass, Russian knapweed, Bermuda grass, toad flax, leafy spurge, poison ivy and poison oak on non-crop lands. A non-sterilant you can use with complete confidence.
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- ✓ **BENZAC** is a liquid formulation used for the ERADICATION of small patches of deep rooted perennials such as field bindweed, Russian knapweed, Canada thistle, absinthe on non-cropped lands.

See your nearest U.G.G. Agent or Dealer, or write to

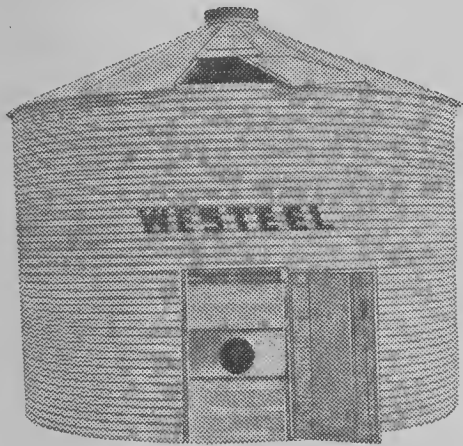
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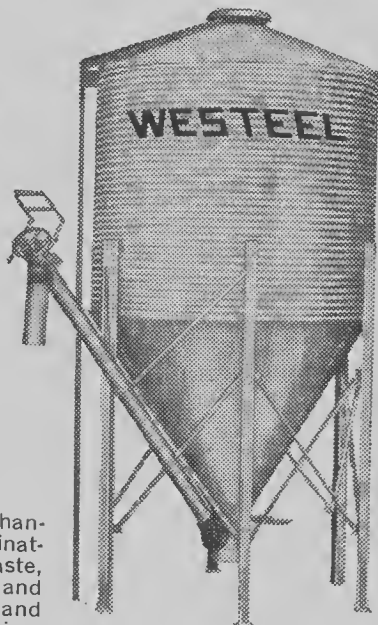
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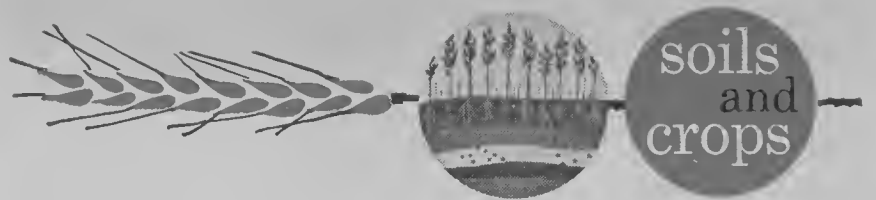
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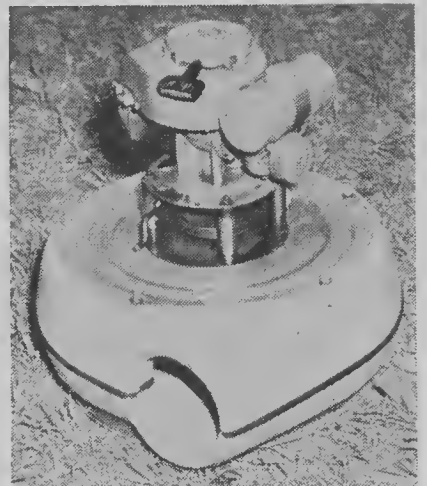


New Ideas for Irrigation

A Pump That Floats

THIS portable fiberglass, 2½ h.p. low-lift volume pump is shaped much like a snail's shell. It floats readily on ponds and ditches, sucks water in at the bottom and discharges it through a 4-in. opening at the side.

The pump is fitted with inexpensive, collapsible plastic hose, and can lift 12,000 gallons per hour on a 4- to 5-ft. head of water for irrigating high spots or transferring water from a reservoir to field ditches. In moist areas, this equipment could be used



to drain flooded hay meadows.—
C.V.F. ✓

"Torpedo" Provides Irrigation from Below



The torpedo irrigator is backed into this starting position in the ditch.

AN interesting device now under test which might prove to be a breakthrough in low-cost irrigation is the Torpedo Irrigator. Developed by two brothers, John and Bill Fladhamer of Gem, Alta., the Torpedo utilizes a principle long

used in England and Holland to aid field drainage.

The machine consists of a torpedo-shaped implement of hard cast steel (nickel-chrome-molybdenum) which can be mounted on a chisel plow, or any similar chassis. A 24-inch coultter with sealed bearing is set ahead of the standard to cut the soil and thus eliminate any dragging of surface litter, or undue topsoil disturbance.

The torpedo is drawn through the soil at a depth of 10" to 14", leaving a round compacted hole in its wake. Tunnels are made at 6' to 8' intervals in the field to be irrigated, running out at right angles from the supply ditch to carry water to the field's outer perimeter. Interval width would be governed by how far the water was able to spread horizontally from each tunnel, which in turn would depend on the soil type. Moisture will spread farther in heavy



Implement making a clean cut in pasture sward, and a smooth tunnel about a foot below the surface. Spacing of channels would vary with soil type.

[Guide photos]

soils than in light soil. The water rises upwards from these tunnels by capillary action to irrigate the topsoil.

Some advantages claimed for the Torpedo Irrigator are as follows: (1) low cost of the implement; (2) elimination of land loss through ditches and borders; (3) evaporation and runoff losses cut; (4) water supply is the only limit to amount of land irrigated; (5) land doesn't have to be floated or levelled, thus vital trash cover is undisturbed; and (6) irrigation is not affected by uneven topsoil. (Water will flow up and over high spots as long as the rises are below supply ditch level.)

A possible disadvantage is that some of the tunnels might become clogged so that water fails to get

If there is no danger of surface wash, it may be spread and left on the surface of the land. But, on sloping land, you should not apply it until you can incorporate it into the soil.

A field experiment on nearly level sandy loam at Ottawa showed that yields of corn, oats, and clover were nearly similar on plots receiving the same rate of fresh manure directly in winter or spring, or after partial rotting in a pit during winter before the spring application.

If the manure contains a lot of weed seeds, pile it in a heap for at least 2 months. Experiments have shown that seeds of most common weeds are killed in a properly built manure pile. V



Bill Fladhamer with his new torpedo irrigator attached to a chisel plow.

through to some sections of the field. A farmer couldn't be sure every tunnel was functioning unless he dug test holes along the outer edges. However, field tests run recently in Alberta on a piece of permanent pasture indicate that tunnels will stand up well under grassland, even when the soil is sandy.

The Torpedo is said to be good for alfalfa crops, tame pasture, or native grass. It can also be used for single irrigations on fallow land, and in grain crops where there is hardpan or soil which will readily compact.

At the present time, the implement is under test at the Lethbridge Research Station. Irrigation specialists are adopting a wait-and-see attitude.—C.V.F. V

Keeping Manure's Value

THERE are two ideal ways to avoid losses of valuable fertilizing properties in manure, according to the Canada Department of Agriculture. One is to incorporate the manure into the soil as soon as possible. The other, if the manure must be stored, is to keep it reasonably compact to reduce losses by fermentation, and in a pit with bottom and sides tight enough to avoid losses by leaching.

The way you conserve manure will depend on cost and convenience as well as on keeping the good in it.

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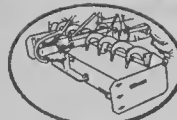
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dirt that harbors germs? If there's room for improvement over last year, see how Hudson can help you in your *clean-up program*. Look over the farm sprayers and dusters on this page. Read how the right equipment can help you produce more crops, meat and milk—make *extra profits*.



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Lilacs Layer Easily

by PERCY H. WRIGHT

HYBRID Asiatic lilacs of the Preston class can be propagated easily and reliably by layering. They are non-suckering and such lilacs, of course, are the very ones that we want to propagate fast.

The common or French lilacs sucker so overabundantly that there are not too many of them that anyone would want to layer.

The Chinese lilac, from which the Prestons are descended, is obtained too easily from seed to need any other method of increase. In any case, the flowers are so pale and unimproved that the Chinese lilac is more for windbreaks than beauty.

Unfortunately, Preston lilacs produce very stout, inflexible stems, and it is often difficult to get their young wood, the kind of wood that produces own-roots freely, underground where the moisture is. But it can be done in three ways.

The first is to cut the plant back to within a few inches of the ground, and then to mound up moist earth



over the new shoots as they appear. Never cover the tips, but be fairly prompt with the mounding when new shoots appear. It might help to place a topless and bottomless box around the mound. This method is probably best for large plants.

horticulture

horticulture

The second method is to dig up the plant and replant it horizontally, so that moist earth is in contact with last season's growth. This sets the plant back considerably, and is most suited to plants under 4 feet high.

The third method is to bend down the stems early in their life, while they are still relatively pliable. Once they are down, new growth will come from the exposed tips and will bunch out. This new growth is very easy to layer. Earth clings to the roots so tightly that they can be transplanted with less pruning back than other types of shrubs, which have bare roots.

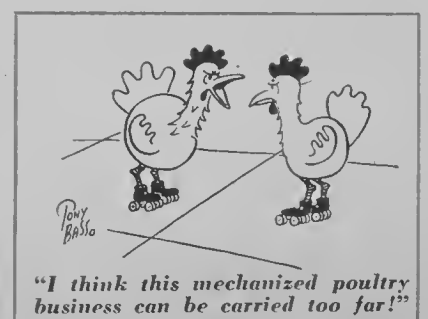
The three varieties that one is most likely to want to propagate are Royalty, Redwine and Coral. All layer easily, but Redwine appears to lack vigor on its own root, and seems to propagate best if grafted on Villosa roots. It has the deepest color of all and it would be a pity not to have it in one's grounds merely because it is a poor-doer on its own roots. If you order Redwine lilac, stipulate that it must be grafted, not on its own roots. V

Treatments For Cabbage Aphid

TWO chemicals protect cole crops against the cabbage aphid. Dr. H. R. MacCarthy and H. G. Fulton of the Vancouver Research Station report that the chemicals are taken into the plant's system through the roots or the leaves and they are fatal to insects that suck the sap.

Di-Syston is applied to the soil at transplanting time or when plants are young. It is highly poisonous and must not be used during the 6 weeks before harvesting. The chemical comes in granular form, and it is particularly handy for Brussels sprouts and kale that are difficult to spray effectively. Di-Syston kills aphids but not the useful insects that prey on them. It does not control caterpillars.

Phosdrin, the other chemical, kills through the plant's system or by contact. It is available as a liquid concentrate and is very poisonous. But it is not long-lasting and it must be used often. It can be applied up to 3 days before harvest. Phosdrin kills aphids and other pests, including their parasites and predators. It is usually sprayed on more mature plants. V



HOW MANY HAVE USED A BANK LOAN?

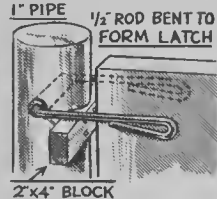
More than ever before—because the chartered banks have on their books more commercial and personal loans than ever before / Commercial loans to help keep the wheels of industry moving. Personal loans for a wide variety of individual and family purposes. At last count, more than 1,250,000 men and women were making use of some form of personal loan for some worthwhile purpose / Year by year, more people discover the ease and convenience of borrowing from a bank. It's good business to see your local bank manager when you stand in need of financial help.

THE CHARTERED BANKS SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY

WORKSHOP

Gate Latch

This takes little time and expense. You need some 1/2 in. steel rod and 1 in. pipe. As you can see in the sketch, the pipe goes into the post and the rod passes through the pipe, so the rod won't wear a larger hole in the post. Drill the hole about 3 1/2 ft. above the ground. Insert the pipe. Bend half the rod and put the other end through the pipe, and then bend that end to the required shape. A 2 in. by 4 in. block, about 6 in. long, is spiked under the hole in the post to stop the latch from dropping down. To open the gate, lift up the latch and the gate swings freely.—I.P., Ont. ✓



Pipe Jaws

A bench vise that is not fitted with a set of pipe jaws can be easily set up as a pipe clamp. Insert four bolts of equal diameter, two on each side between the pipe and the vise. The bolt threads take a firm bite on the pipe to hold it securely for such jobs as cutting, flaring, or threading. Tubing can also be held in this manner with light pressure.—E.O., Alta. ✓

Time Saver

I have a large rack of fruit juice cans for storing bolts, nuts, washers, etc. Along with these I use an old bread pan, which I hammered into a half-funnel at one end. When I'm looking for a particular bolt, say, I empty the can into the pan, where I can find the one I want easily, and then make use of the half-funnel to tip the rest into the can.—F.P., Sask. ✓



Wheelbarrow Casters

The time-honored way of taking a loaded wheelbarrow up or over an obstruction is to turn the barrow



around and pull it over the step or object. A handier method, well adapted to all wheelbarrows, is to attach two large casters to the stands. When approaching an obstacle, raise the front wheel by pressing down on the handles, and let the casters carry the load until the front

wheel is over or on top of the obstruction.—A.W., Alta. ✓

Fitting Dowels

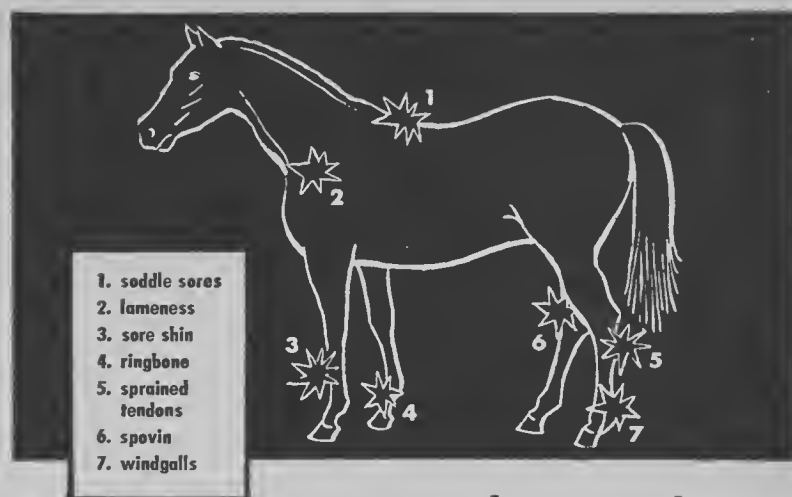
When dowels that have to be inserted in wood don't quite fit, use a school-type pencil sharpener to shave off the corners just enough for an easy fit.—R.M., Mich. ✓

Cattle Scratcher

An old tractor tire, mounted between posts, with two bolts at each end, makes a very good cattle scratcher. The lower bolts can be removed and the tire turned upside down to be stuffed with sacks which can be saturated with insecticide. I find this scratcher good in feedlots or on grazing land. Use a smaller tire for calves.—E.E.W., Alta. ✓



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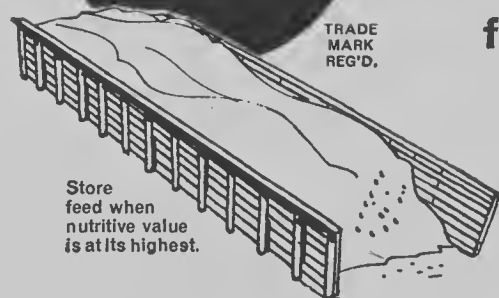
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FARM BUILDINGS

Silo Foundations That Won't Collapse

by F. H. THEAKSTON, Agricultural Engineer, O.A.C.

FARMERS today are building silos that are bigger and higher than ever before, and this trend is bringing with it the possibility of silos collapsing. It is true that few silos do fail but, when they do, they may topple with little warning, crushing nearby buildings, killing or injuring livestock, and maybe even causing loss of life or serious injury. Once a silo begins to collapse, there is not much that can be done to stop it. There is usually no salvage value.

This raises the question, what causes silos to fail? Most manufacturers do an excellent job on the silo itself, but a structure of any kind is only as good as its foundation. This is particularly true for vertical silos, since the height is great compared with the diameter. Today, when silo makers contract to build a silo, the farmer usually provides the foundation. These foundations when improperly installed, can become the chief cause of silo collapse. So here are some hints:

- Test the soil carefully. Soil characteristics change at different depths, so a casual test is not enough. Make test borings on the silo site to a depth of about 15 feet (or a depth equal to the silo's diameter).

- Excavate to a depth where a solid base is reached but, in any case, to where the soil's bearing strength is great enough to support the load from a full silo. A rock, gravel, or even a good clay base should support the silo, but even some rock bases may be so formed that they crush under a heavy load.

- To ensure a safe bearing property in the soil, consult someone such as an agricultural engineer, who is well versed in soil strengths. Layers of sand may occur in some soils and, if this sand tends to flow,

cavities may occur, causing settlement in critical areas.

- Install the footings deep enough to extend below the frost level—usually about 4 feet. The footings should be designed so the load will be distributed evenly over the supporting soil. Reinforcing rods will prevent cracking of the concrete, and provide necessary tensile strength which is not provided by the concrete. Although concrete is good in compression, it is poor in tension.

- Before any concrete is poured for the base, place coarse gravel in the excavation to provide a level base and drainage. Tamp it well.

- Lay pavement around base of silo, sloping it away from the silo and toward a drain. Poor drainage on one side of a silo will cause sinking of the base, resulting in complete failure. Silage juices, too, which are high in acid, will break down the soil if allowed to penetrate to it. A concrete floor, reinforced with steel and properly drained, is a safeguard against this.

- Alternate freezing and thawing of the soil on the exposed side of the silo may cause failure over a period of time. A hood around the silo, about 8 to 10 feet above the base, can help prevent this.

So much for construction. The silo must be managed carefully too. When it is being filled, the silage must be evenly distributed. Commercial distributors are available for this purpose but, even when one of these is used, the operator should keep his eye on it. The silage should be wilted too—excess moisture causes undue pressure on the silo. When a new silo is being filled for the first time, it's a good idea to quit when it is two-thirds full. A year of consolidation is worth a lot.

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Faulty foundations caused this silo's collapse. Plastic is being used to save some silage, but it is rare if more than 30 per cent is recoverable.

[N.R.C. photo]



SECRET

The Oliver 40 combine is so greedy, it leaves pretty slim pickin's for field mice and blackbirds. The Model 40 puts your grain in the tank—not on the ground.

What's the secret? Take a good look at the wide . . . low . . . flat feeder house. You can see how the crop travels up a very slight incline on its way to the cylinder. This is one of the Oliver 40's grain saving secrets. There's no steep incline—no sharp breakover to jam up. The heaviest yields (and the toughest, rankest weeds) go through the big 40 like turnpike traffic.

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A third secret. Below the giant straw walkers, you'll find the dual-action shoe (independent slow-shake, long throw chaffer and vibrating, short stroke sieve). It gets grain

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With the Model 40, you choose from two types of wind-row pickups—apron-type or revolving drum with retractable spring steel fingers. Both are most gentle . . . and most thorough.

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(That's no secret.)

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Bale Stooker



Bales are stooked automatically in this one-man operation, and the stooks are self-ventilating for better curing, with bales resting on their edges. Unit has universal mounting brackets, bale chute is extra. It is claimed that the machine cuts pick-up time in half. (Pratt Manufacturing Co.) (378) v

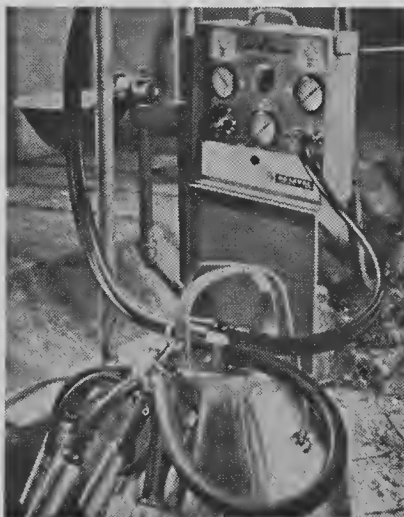
Radiotelephone

Designed for tractors, trucks, equipment, farm homes and offices, the Ray-Tel simplifies communications on the farm. It offers five channels that can be used also for battery-operated communications, with adjustable squelch circuit and automatic volume control. Size is 9½" by 5" by 9¼". Yoke mount tilts radiotelephone to any angle. Microphone is of the press-to-talk type. (Raytheon Canada Ltd.) (379) v



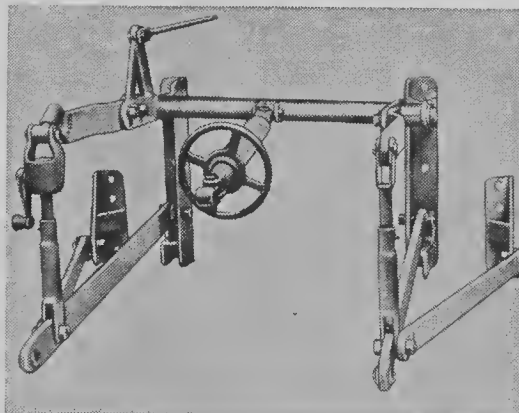
Milking Aid

The Milker Analyzer is designed to help dairymen find out quickly if anything goes wrong with the milking equipment, on the principle that a cow's health depends largely on smooth operation. This lightweight portable instrument acts as an intelligence center, reporting on faults that may occur anywhere along the line, and these are shown on the control panel. (De Laval Separator Company) (380) v



Three-Point Hitches

It is possible to modernize many old tractors with these hydraulically-controlled hitches. They provide a simple method of mounting and using light-draft, three-point implements which require rigid stabilizers. Also available are three-point conversion packages designed for use with two-point tractors. (Danuser Machine Co.) (381) v



For further information about any item mentioned in "What's New," write to WHAT'S NEW Department, The Country Guide, 1760 Ellice Ave., Winnipeg 21, Man., giving the key number shown at the end of each item, as—(17).

I WAS JUST FIGURING...

by
Cy Watkins



Why Feed Concentrates to Dry Cows on Pasture?

Every now and then, I like to put in a plea for motherhood . . . for the proper care of barnyard mothers, at least . . . because all too often, the dry cow is put out on pasture and left to make her own way in the world until she calves.

From a nutritionist's point of view, I can't think of anything much worse; if you want to have a cow that's in condition to give her best in the next lactation, and if you want to get yourself a calf that's husky and healthy, with a body that's ready to be built into a good thrifty cow.

Actually, the "dry" period is one of the most critical in the whole dairy cycle. It's a period when there's a heavy nutritional demand . . . especially for proteins and certain minerals and vitamins. And if your "dry" cow doesn't get the nutrients she needs to do the job, one or both of a couple of things will happen. The cow will drain her bodily reserves to build the calf, and/or the calf will suffer and get off to a poor start.

This means that after such an ordeal of semi-starvation, your cow is not in good condition to go back into the milk line and really make money for you. As a matter of fact, tests run over the lifetime of dairy cows, show that the kind of feeding during the dry period can have a great influence on whether a cow stays profitable for 5, 6 or more years . . . or whether she gets progressively more run down and becomes unprofitable after 3 or 4 years of milking.

The question you have to answer is . . . is your dry cow getting the nutrients she needs to build a good calf and rebuild her own body reserves? If you're depending on pasture, she probably is not and will not get "the makings" she desperately needs.

Where is she getting the protein she needs to build a good calf and rebuild her own body? Where is she getting the major and trace minerals she needs to build the vital organs and blood of that calf? Where is she getting the Vitamins that are so essential? Out of that old dried-out, grazed-out pasture? Don't count on it!

On the Watkins Dairy Program, you make sure. You continue feeding at least minimum amounts of concentrates. The recommended ration is fortified with Watkins minerals and vitamins. For the minerals, you feed Watkins Stock Mineral. For the vitamins, you mix in small amounts of Watkins Vitamin Supplement. Or, where debilities exist, you can use Watkins M-V Special for Stock.

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THE COUNTRY GUIDE

with every child



by DOROTHY M. POWELL

A woman's tears on a strong man's hand is a combination that's hard to beat

THE Waiting Room reminded Teddy Bannerman of the Union Station at home. It was a whole lot bigger, though, and the marble columns weren't the same. These were white; white as frosty window panes with the morning sun behind. And as far as he could see, there was no ceiling. Now, it was beginning to lighten up there; long, rosy ribbons weaving slowly through a cream colored mist.

Most of the time it was very quiet even though the place was so full of people; all kinds of people. They sat on the marble benches or leaned against the columns and waited for the Man at the Desk to call their names.

There was one old lady who looked so much like Miss Sarah, Teddy nearly got up to see. She was stroking something white in her lap and he wondered if it was Twink, the kitten. Miss Sarah always sat very straight like that, but they were too far away for him to be sure. Besides, the Man might call Teddy's name.

Most people had something with them. Teddy had his new bike, although it didn't look very new now; the red paint all scratched up and the back wheel bent like a piece of limp spaghetti. One small girl held a rubber beach toy; the kind one uses for water wings. But there was a ragged hole in it. Another big kid had a brand new rifle. You would think he'd be happy about having it. Maybe he didn't feel so good with that bandage round his head.

SOME people had only a small cross. They were bent over as if they carried a heavy load, yet Teddy couldn't see anything on their backs. He'd noticed a strange thing, though. As soon as they handed the cross to the Man at the Desk, they would stand straight and tall.

"This is the cross you bore?" the Man would ask. And they would nod, then pass through the Gates.

Teddy never tired of watching the Gates. Sometimes, he looked for so long, they blurred and brightened, blurred and brightened again. The lace-like pattern made him think of

Mom's gold filigree brooch in the white leather jewel box. He could see right through to the other side, yet there was never anything there; only changing shades of blue.

What bothered Teddy most was that everyone went through those Gates. He was glad Bobby was sitting beside him. He felt better having company.

As a matter of fact, Teddy had no intention of going anywhere. He had only come about the crust. What was it Dad had said? "Every child brings his own crust, but this kid used his up long ago?" Of course, Dad had been angry about the smashed bike, then.

If it hadn't been for the Gates and the long switchboard stretching down one side of the Room, the waiting might have been very tiring. Actually, there were two switchboards side by side. Teddy could read the word above one which said *Prayers*, but the other word was too

big. It said *Blasphemer* and was the busier of the two; colored lights flicking on and off and muted bells tinkling. Several men watched the lights and then wrote busily in large leather-bound books.

Teddy didn't know why the men at the Prayer board were the only ones wearing earphones. Unless prayers were harder to hear. These men looked into what appeared to be upside-down periscopes like the one Dad bought him at the circus. That was when his father had more time. And before Mom kept reminding Teddy that "Daddy was an important man in the Company." A light blinked on while Teddy was watching and one of the men clapped on the earphones and peered intently downward.

The only time the Man at the Desk appeared angry was when several bells clanged sharply on the *Blasphemer* all at the same time.

He turned his white head so

quickly, the long curling beard jerked sideways upon his shoulder and stayed there like a silken-gray scarf.

"Is there no way of quieting that thing?" he demanded. "What is it this time?"

The switchboard fellow rose respectfully to his feet.

"Well now, Sir," he replied uncertainly, reaching for his earphones again. Without taking them off, he said, "It could be the Army-Navy Game. It seems Army just intercepted another Navy pass." Turning from the board, his expression brightened. "Then, there's a traffic tie-up on—" And stopped when the Man held up his hand for silence.

Teddy was undecided whether the Man smiled or made a face.

ALL this wouldn't have happened if Teddy hadn't taken his new bike outside without permission. Especially when Dad had no time to teach him how to ride properly. But it was such a shame to have it stay downstairs in the basement. When Bobby, the boy who delivered the newspaper, didn't believe he had a racer. Naturally, he had to show it to him, then.

Mrs. Bowles was busy knitting at the time. She was the lady who came three times a week when Mom went golfing. Anyway, Teddy wouldn't have asked her to help him up the stairs with the bike because she could only go up one step at a time. Mrs. Bowles was bad on her feet. Now the weather was cold, he had hoped Mom wouldn't golf any more. With the grass all brown and the trees bare, he hadn't expected she would. Mom said she and the golf pro used a little woolen ball which didn't go so far when you hit it.

In the summertime, though, it wasn't so bad. He had made friends with Miss Sarah in the big brown house with the lilac hedge all around. There were a lot of big houses in this district, but hardly any kids to play with; nearly all old rich people. When Teddy asked his mother why they had moved, she said, "Daddy might be Director of the Company some day, dear. And



Illustrated by
EMILE LALIBERTE

we want to be ready." Things changed after they moved to Washington Crescent. Mom and Dad had a lot of cocktail parties, now. Sometimes it was so noisy, he had to put his head under the pillow to sleep.

Miss Sarah's house was never noisy because there was never anyone there; just Miss Sarah, the maid and the cats. And Twink, the little white kitten.

"Funny thing," Miss Sarah had

said in her soft slow voice. "That's the second little white kitty with blue eyes, born deaf." Dad said Miss Sarah used to write a column for the large city newspapers.

Once when Miss Sarah and Teddy were having iced pink lemonade under the weeping willow tree, she said, "You know, Teddy boy." That's what she called him. "I've given advice to hundreds of thousands of people and never had the sense to

take some of it myself." And then she had smiled. "If I had, there might have been a little boy like you around the house."

He couldn't imagine Miss Sarah being anybody's mother. She was so tiny and shriveled-up looking. But she was kind. She had even offered to give him Twink. Poor, deaf little Twink with the long white fur and honest-to-goodness blue eyes.

Teddy guessed he'd been pretty awful when Mom and Dad said he couldn't have Twink. He cried and sulked for days. Mom had tried to explain that Mrs. Bowles had an allergy to cats which meant she broke out in a rash or something. Teddy had screamed that he didn't care if Mrs. Bowles died!

Somehow, he couldn't confess to Mom how much he missed her when she went out so often. With Twink it wouldn't have been so lonely.

"Anyway, the animal is deaf," Dad said. "It would be more bother than it's worth." Teddy didn't agree with this at the time, but his father had been right. Twink and the new bicycle were the cause of the accident.

EVERYTHING had been fine at first. Bobby had admired the new racer and offered to let Teddy help him on the paper route. Bobby was a lot bigger than he was and Teddy felt pretty important pedalling along beside him. They were in front of Miss Sarah's house when it happened. Suddenly, there was Twink, right in the middle of the road and Bobby heading straight for him, honking his horn and yelling, "Crazy cat! Outta my way!" Twink didn't move, of course.

Teddy didn't have time to explain. He just swerved his bike over toward Bobby's, hoping to make him circle the kitten. Instead, the two of them crashed to the road. The truck behind the boys needed new brake linings. The driver couldn't have stopped in time, even if he'd tried.

Teddy remembered a crowd of people. Miss Sarah was there with Twink, limp and not moving, in her arms. A policeman took Teddy home but not before he made sure there were no broken bones. When they left, Bobby was lying on the dead grass of the boulevard. Someone had put an overcoat under him. The person wouldn't be able to wear it again because there was blood all over it.

Mom was so upset she didn't know whether to cry or be angry. Teddy could feel her trembling when she took him in her arms.

"He seems all right, Ma'am," the policeman reassured her. "I'd suggest you have a doctor look him over, though."

Teddy thought he was all right and said so. He didn't mention that his head was hurting. It was still hurting when Dad came home from the office. But Dad's head must have hurt a lot worse, because he sat on the edge of the chesterfield and held it with both hands. He didn't even look at Teddy.

"I didn't get it, Nance," he said to Mom. "Jack Cummings is the new Director. Something went wrong somewhere. Heavens knows what!"

Mom left Teddy right away and put her hand on Dad's bowed head. And for awhile they both forgot all about him.

SOMETIME later Teddy remembered Dad standing in front of him. His father looked strange; as if he was standing in one spot, yet moving in others. It was hard to answer Dad's questions about the bike properly. The last thing Teddy recalled was seeing a shadowy outline standing at the foot of the stairs. And that was when Dad said it. He said, "I thought every child brought its own crust of bread. This kid used his up long ago!"

And that is how Teddy came to be here. He hoped he could get another crust for Dad. Then, maybe it wouldn't matter so much about the smashed bike.

Leaning closer to Bobby, he pointed toward the switchboard and asked, "Hey! What's that word mean? Blasphemer?"

Bobby's reply was rude, Teddy thought. "Boy, what a doughhead! It means 'cussin', of course."

"Well, Jeez o' Peter, I was only asking," Teddy retorted and was startled when a series of sharp pings accompanied by several blinking lights erupted on the board.

Bobby thrust his elbow into Teddy's ribs. "Now, look what you've done!" he said.

"What?" Teddy asked. But he knew well enough what had happened and so did the Man at the Desk. Mom had often told him not to use that particular expression. "It may not sound like swearing, but it is," she had said.

"Young man," the Man at the Desk called. "Are you the cause of all this commotion?" His voice carried clear from one end of the Waiting Room to the other. Teddy felt he should stand up and salute or something. "Yes, sir," he said.

THE Man beckoned and Teddy walked toward him, the Desk seeming farther away than he had imagined, the Room very much larger than before.

Teddy expected the Man to be angry but when he reached the Desk he found there was a shining warmth in his dark eyes. Just like Miss Sarah's when Teddy had scraped his knee once.

The Man's finger moved down the long list of names in a very large book. When he came to the end, he raised his white head and with a puzzled expression, asked,

"What is your name, son?"

"Teddy Bannerman, sir," the boy replied. "But I'm not staying long," he added hurriedly. "I just came about an extra crust."

Like furry caterpillars, the Man's eyebrows humped up in the center. "How was that again?" he asked.

"Well," Teddy began hesitantly and stopped, dropping his eyes to his own grubby hands gripping the marble Desk top. He should've washed them before he came.

"Don't be afraid, son. I'm just as confused as you are," the Man said.

Teddy's head came up, his eyes bluer than the ceiling above. "You are?" he asked hopefully.

And then the story poured forth; all about having used Dad's crust up, about the loneliness when Mom

(Please turn to page 36)

TEXACO FARM TIPS...

HOW TO STARVE YOUR SCRAP PILE AT ITS SOURCE



A scrap pile represents damaged tools, ruined machines, wasted time when you can least afford it. It means lost capital, lost profit, even lost opportunities. Today's farmer realizes that he must practice rigid cost control in every section of his operation. Profit margins are too slim to permit anything casual. As a modern farmer yourself, you have a very big investment in complex machinery, an investment that shows every sign of having to be increased. You can protect this capital, lengthen machinery life and lower your maintenance costs by remembering one simple thing: **LUBRICATION IS A MAJOR FACTOR IN COST CONTROL.** The operating handbooks you received with your equipment all specify proper lubrication intervals — intervals you should observe with the greatest of care. This is your first step to maintenance cost control. Your second major step is to use Multifak lubricant for all appropriate applications. Multifak is a multi-purpose lubricant for use on farm machinery — it just won't squeeze out, pound out or wash out. Multifak will help starve your scrap pile at its source and extend equipment life. Multifak is available in easy-to-load cartridges from your Texaco Farm Supplier — the man you trust for all your fuel and lubrication requirements.

IT PAYS TO FARM WITH...



TEXACO

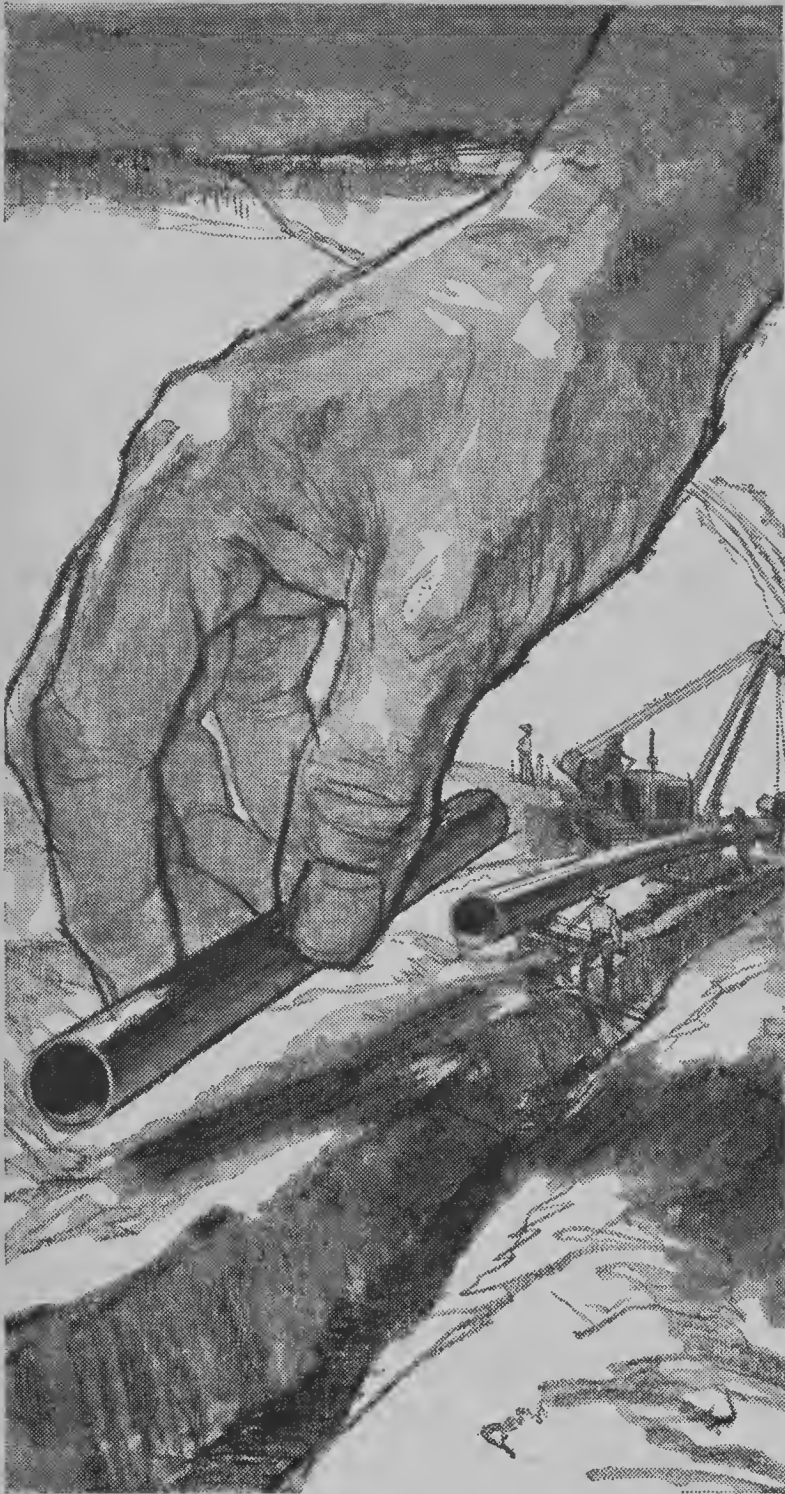


How Canadian Nickel helped prevent an epidemic in British Honduras

Last fall, Hurricane Hattie ripped through the city of Belize in British Honduras. In its wake lay the danger of a major epidemic. And Canadian nickel helped prevent this grim possibility, just as it helps in the battle against disease all over the world. For nickel alloys were used in the processing of the drugs flown in to the stricken area. Why nickel alloys? Because they withstand corrosion; won't contaminate the product with metallic impurities; are easy to keep clean. Growth of nickel markets at home and abroad helps strengthen Canada's economy and helps provide more jobs for Canadians.

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THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN CANADA

L-162E

was away, about Miss Sarah and Twink and the bicycle. The Man didn't interrupt hardly at all; just a few questions here and there, like:

"Where was Mrs. Bowles when you took the bike?"

"Drinkin' 'cum luv' tea," Teddy replied.

"What sort of tea?"

Teddy grinned. "That's what Mom and Dad used to call it."

"You see," he volunteered. "When Mom came home without the baby, she was sick for awhile and Mrs. Bowles came to take care of her. She used to make tea all the time and when Mom didn't come right away, she'd yell, 'Come love, your tea's ready.' It was pretty awful tea, Mom said. You know, sir." Teddy went on thoughtfully. "That's when Mom started golfing. The doctor said it would be good for her."

The Man interrupted. "I would imagine you might have to stay. Now you've come this far."

Crystal cool air streamed past Teddy and he shuddered uncontrollably.

The Man regarded him curiously. "What's the trouble, son?"

The great Gates stood partially open and Teddy squinted in the light. "It's the Gates, sir," he said, pointing. "There must be a draft."

"You're cold?" the Man asked, amazed.

And then, as though to himself, he added, "One doesn't experience such feeling here. *And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: and death shall be no more, nor mourning, nor crying, nor sorrow shall be any more, for the former things are passed away.*"

TEDDY wasn't listening. His face was alight with excitement, his eyes on the small white animal sitting within the open Gates.

"It's Twink! It's Twink, sir!" he shouted. And the shout mushroomed loud in the space of the Room, then shattered into tiny, tinkling echoes. "Twink — ink — ink." Until it disappeared entirely. The kitten's ears straightened like two fresh blooming tulips. Then arrow-swift, a furry shape streaked in Teddy's direction.

The boy swung the kitten high in his arms. "Did you see that, sir?" he exclaimed. "He heard me! He heard me!"

The Man's reply puzzled Teddy. "Behold," he said, "God makes all things new."

"Pardon?"

"It was to be expected, son. Twink was halfway in."

This didn't make sense, either. And Teddy was about to ask the Man to explain, but he never had the chance.

A helper on the Prayer switchboard hurried over to the Desk.

"You should hear this, Peter," he said. "It may clear things up."

Since nobody bothered to tell him not to, Teddy followed. A white light glimmered on and off; at first dimly and then bright and steady. By stretching round the Man's wide sleeve he was able to see the picture forming on the periscope.

There was a boy with red hair

in a hospital bed; a man on one side of the bed, a woman on the other. The man's hair was red, too. He was bent so far over in the chair, his head almost touched the bed.

"How long, Nance? How long can this go on?" he whispered. "Unconscious six weeks!"

"That's Dad!" Teddy exclaimed.

The man frowned down at Teddy and placed his forefinger gently on the boy's lips.

MOM'S eyes were shadowy. She reached across the boy's legs and took Dad's hand. Teddy knew now that the boy on the pillow was himself. He didn't know how it was managed but he was up here and down there, too. Mrs. Bowles was wrong. You *could* be in two places at the same time! He could feel the weight of their arms on his legs; the warmth of their hands.

"I've been a fool, Nance," Dad went on and his mouth looked crooked. "My son brought me a whole loaf and I was too half-witted to realize it." Dad's chair scraped backwards and suddenly he was on his knees, his face buried in the bed clothes. Mom didn't say anything and her cheeks were shiny-wet. She merely drew Dad's outstretched hand closer and kissed it.

"A woman's tears on a strong man's hand," the helper remarked. "That's a hard combination to beat."

"Sh—sh," the Desk Man said sternly. "Listen!"

Dad raised his head. Even though his father's eyes were closed, his lips not moving, Teddy could hear what he said as plainly as if he were here in this Room.

"God!" Dad said. "Oh, God, please let Teddy get better!" Then there was complete silence; the light dimming and fading. Teddy knew how Dad must feel with all these people listening. There had been a time once on the school platform when Teddy felt the same way.

Dad's voice began again, stumbling and uneven.

"Oh, Lord," he said. "I don't know how to say this. If you could forget the past . . . If I could begin again . . . If we could have him back . . . I'd give you my soul."

The helper sat up quickly, pushing the earphones above his ears.

"Oh, my!" he said to the Man.

TEDDY was about to pull the Man's sleeve. He meant to say something about Dad's prayer. But the Man wasn't there. Neither was the helper nor the switchboard nor the Gates. He felt as if he was drifting through cloud and blue and space; swinging, circling, feathering down. He had simply to follow Twink's blue-green eyes, always just ahead, until he came to the boy in the bed.

"Dad, Teddy said. "I heard you. You did real fine."

Lifting his head, his father's eyes blazed bright into Teddy's own. Then, he covered his face with both hands and his shoulders shook.

"Thank you," Dad whispered. "Thank you!" But he sounded as if he was talking to Someone Else.—*With kind permission of Extension magazine.*

Home and Family

The Country Guide's Magazine for Rural Women

Beside Still Waters

by ELVA FLETCHER

WATER falling as rain, or water available from such natural sources as streams and wells, is essential to all gardens. One landscape designer says it's the most important element in attractive landscaping next to plants and stone.

Perhaps you, too, have considered the addition of a small decorative lily pond or fountain to your garden. If so, you will be as interested as I was to see how some farm members of the green thumb brigade brought water's rippled beauty within easy reach of their own front doors.

The long treed driveway into Eleanor and Cliff Wood's home at Marquette doesn't quite prepare you for the expanse of tree-framed lawn surrounding their home. Neither does it prepare you for the rectangular pool which Cliff built himself. Curbed edges retain its waters and provide corner resting places for square planters. Water lilies soften its surface; and sometimes speedy water beetles draw fine lines on its surface. When I first saw it one hot August day, a pedestalled fountain was splashing sparkling drops into the water below. It's understandable that Cliff sometimes takes his mid-afternoon break in this peaceful setting when field work brings him close to home.

Another pond I liked can be found on the Perry Park property of Elsie and David Paterson at Westbourne. Theirs is a small round pool open to the summer sun where visiting youngsters delight in silent ducks and croaking frogs.

If you plan something more elaborate you might consider a kidney-shaped pool similar to the one Norma and Allan Sveinson have in their Alberta garden. Its curved edge is rimmed with flagstones that give way, here and there, to clumps of flowers. Ivory-like in the summer sunshine, an arched bridge leads across the lily pond. To imaginative children it might be their own special gateway into storybook land.

Perhaps a plastic pool is as much as you can manage. Perhaps you want a bird bath built at ground level. If you do, there is useful information for you in the 1962 edition of *The Prairie Garden*, a publication of the Winnipeg Horticultural Society. Now in its nineteenth edition, the *Prairie Garden* costs \$1. For this modest sum you get a wealth of practical, up-to-date gardening advice designed for climatic conditions in Canada's great plains. Yet it appeals to gardeners everywhere for the new ideas it presents.

A well-cared for garden is an outdoor living room. When you add the loveliness of a fringed pool it's a little like hanging a new picture on the wall.



Plenty of shade trees plus the pool and fountain in the Manitoba garden of Eleanor and Cliff Wood of Marquette make it a pleasant place on a hot day.



Curved lines predominate in Elsie and David Paterson's Perry Park garden at Westbourne, Man., as can be seen in this corner of their farm's home grounds.



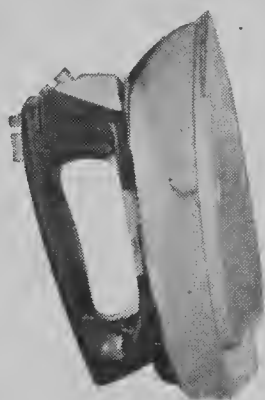
Grier Bros. of Conquest, Sask., now enjoy this pool and fountain built by Denny Johnson.



In this Alberta garden flowers and flagstones frame the pool.



steam-ironed new



A tough material? Yes. Tough to iron? No. And you *can* iron it on the right side with General Electric's new Spray Steam and Dry Iron. It irons all fabrics (even synthetics)...smooth deal. Doesn't scorch because of even-heat soleplate...what a relief! So light to handle and it fills and empties easily...no trouble at all. With handy "Visualizer" fabric dial...wonderful! AND MORE. You can dampen *as you iron*! At the touch of a button, a fine spray of warm water sprinkles extra dampness into stubborn wrinkles. (Great for collars and cuffs.) No wonder more Canadians choose CGE Appliances than any other make.



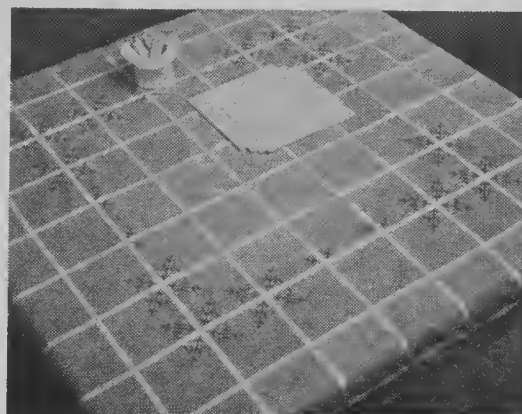
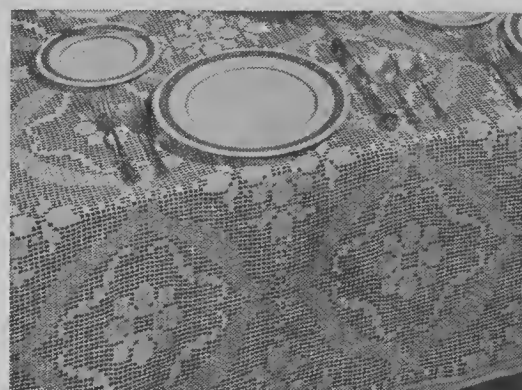
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HANDICRAFTS

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Crochet a Filet Tablecloth as background for a gracious table setting. Order Leaflet No. 7735, price 10¢.



Leaflet No. E-6000, 10¢, provides a tracing diagram of the spring motif embroidered on this satin stripe chambray bridge cloth. Lazy Daisy, Stem and French Knot stitches and finishing detail are illustrated.

St. Augustine is the name given to this crocheted tablecloth pattern. Made by joining motifs 4-in. square, the finished cloth measures 60 by 80 in. Order Leaflet No. S-373, price 10¢.



This Primrose Patch tablecloth, Leaflet No. CS-858-F, 10¢, measures 75 by 95 in. It requires 40 balls crochet cotton, 3¾ yd. 36-in. linen, No. 10 hook.

For handicraft patterns pictured above please address your order to The Country Guide Needlework Dept., 1760 Ellice Ave., Winnipeg 21, Man.

A Changing Role

by **GWEN LESLIE**

Home Editor



*Homemakers play no silent role.
They're full partners in the
changing farm business*

Mrs. Alvin Keenan sits
in a rocking armchair
at the desk in her
bright, roomy kitchen.

Mrs. Harry Kilpatrick keeps
this farm record book
in its own drawer in her
busy kitchen.



[Guide photos

SPEAK with a farm family of long standing and you'll hear tales of the rush and bustle in harvest time when the threshing crew moved in. Farm wives will tell of the mountains of food prepared and consumed by the crew.

For a short time last autumn in the Maritimes I thought I'd found homemakers still catering to a horde of harvesters. Not so.

The potato pickers come, and come in large numbers. But 2 homemakers I talked with on their farms just out of Woodstock, N.B., have traded the feeding chore for keeping accounting records on the potato business.

Mrs. Harry Kilpatrick was first to tell me that the potato pickers of today board themselves. Some commute daily from homes 30 to 40 miles from the potato farm. Mechanization replaced the threshing crew, but men are still needed when potatoes are picked in Carleton County. The automobile has meant that the men needn't stay on the farm throughout the harvest.

Some Carleton County schools open in August, then close in September to free students to join in the harvest. The pickers include some homemakers, some fishermen, and some pulp wood workers. The picking crews arrive at the Kilpatrick farm at 7:00 a.m. They bring their own lunch, and leave the dooryard again at 7:00 p.m. Paid 25 cents per barrel, pickers earn from \$9 to \$25

per day. Keeping the pickers' records, writing their weekly cheques and keeping run of the seed and spraying materials, Mrs. Kilpatrick spends 1½ hours each evening of the picking season in bookkeeping.

Last year the hired man's wife boarded 6 resident pickers who slept in the bunkhouse. Mrs. Kilpatrick claimed proudly to be the "cookee," making applesauce and baking a cake each day.

New kitchen equipment makes her baking a simpler task. Looking around the kitchen at the shiny stove, refrigerator, and automatic washer and dryer, she said, "I told Harry that I just wish I'd had these when we boarded the crew!" However, they ease housekeeping when she and her husband are alone, when nephews and grandchildren visit, and when she's busy with Women's Institute work and Eastern Star activities.

"I didn't feel the need for this sort of thing when we were younger and just building things up, but now when the rush of work is done and the family is away, I enjoy it," Mrs. Kilpatrick says of her active role in organizations. The Carleton County Music Festival, begun when she was county president of the WI, is a thriving project which had to be extended to 4 days this year. In 1961 she completed 4 years as provincial president of the N.B.W.I. She is secretary for the Eastern Star chapter.

THE Alvin Keenans started in the potato business during the war. Labor for the potato picking had to be boarded so the Keenans set up a bunkhouse and, with the help of 1 girl, Mrs. Keenan fed from 10 to 35 men in a large room at one side of the house. Now the picking season brings from 50 to 75 extras for a 5-week season and Mrs. Keenan is grateful that they board themselves and bring their own lunch. The accounts and records for the farm operation and raising 8 children keep her busy all year round.

The Keenans now grow potatoes on 5 locations as much as 13 miles apart. They also run a 75-head dairy herd on a farm 3 miles from home. One man manages the dairy farm, drawing on the potato crew during haying. Twelve men work from October to the end of April racking potatoes for grading; 7 of these work on the farm all year running tractors and spraying. Planting the new crop requires the work of 15 men. Some of the crop is sold out of the field but most is washed and packed in 5- and 10-lb. poly bags for sale through a chain store in Toronto. The records for each phase of the business pass through Mrs. Keenan's books.

The eldest of the Keenan children has just finished his first year in Business Administration at St. Joseph's University in Moncton, N.B. "Terry has always been interested in the farm business—but mostly he wanted to drive the tractor or truck. It's only in the last few years he's been able to see that you can hire someone who can't read or write to do those things," his mother told me.

The Keenans send their boys away to high school so their studies won't suffer from their interest in the round of activity on the farm.

The youngest of the Keenan children, Gracie, was 2 when I visited them. The others were Kenny 5, Alvin, Jr., 7, Susy 9, Ray 11, David 16, Mary 17, and Terry 18—eight good reasons why Mrs. Keenan limits her off-farm activities to the Catholic Women's League and Home and School groups. When it can be arranged, she accompanies her husband to potato growers' conferences and their friends among fellow growers are widespread.

Manpower is still a large factor in potato growing, although the fuelling of it is no longer the responsibility of the growers' wives. But these 2 farm homemakers, like others the country over, have adopted new roles in the ever-changing pattern.



At Kilpatrick's, a garage-shed houses this



sleeping space for the few boarding pickers.

DRESSES

Quick 'n easy summer styles

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2239



2238



2237

No. 2239. This sleeveless dress, suitable for fabrics with printed or woven borders, features a Johnny collar, front-buttoned bodice, gathered skirt. Misses' 10, 12, 14, 16, 18; 60¢.

No. 2238. A sleeveless, square-necked dress with fitted bodice, back zipper and full skirt is suitable for woven or printed border fabrics and plain. Misses' 10, 12, 14, 16; 60¢.

No. 2236. Also suitable for fabrics with woven or printed borders, a full-skirted dress with bateau neck, back zipper, short unmounted sleeves, self tie belt. Misses' 10, 12, 14, 16; 60¢.

No. 2237. A band collar tops a shirtdress suitable for fabrics with printed or woven borders. Gathered skirt features inverted front pleat. Miss sizes 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20; 60¢.



2236

Maternity Dept.



2190



2120

No. 2190. Johnny collar and contrast overcollar top a four-button front jacket with inverted back pleat, bow or tab trim, set-in sleeves. Slim Kangaroo skirt. Misses' 10, 12, 14, 16, 18; 60¢.

No. 2120. Two or three piece suit: collarless jacket with scalloped front hemline and top-stitch trim, back-buttoned 3/4 sleeved blouse, slim Kangaroo skirt. Misses' 12, 14, 16, 18, 20; 60¢.

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Good Cookies for Summer

BUTTER-FOR-BAKING home-makers rejoice! The recent reduction in butter's retail price increases the pleasure to be had from melting some to pour over the first-of-the-season vegetables and dotting some more over the filling for fresh fruit pies. No need now to feel extravagantly spendthrift in ladling the golden goodness into the bake bowl!

For all-round convenience, as well as eating pleasure, we suggest you add this refrigerator cookie to your butter-baked repertoire. Once mixed, you can serve cookies fresh from the oven at a few minutes notice.

The refrigerator also plays a feature role in the preparation of two-bar cookies given below. Neither requires oven cooking—just a brief heating of some ingredients on a surface element.

Chocolate Slices

- 8 c. cornflakes 1 egg, slightly
OR 2 c. corn- beaten
flake crumbs 1 tsp. vanilla
½ c. soft butter 1 c. coconut
½ c. sugar ½ c. chopped nuts
½ c. cocoa

Filling:

- ¼ c. butter 2 c. sifted icing
1 tsp. vanilla sugar
2 T. milk

Chocolate Glaze:

- 2 oz. unsweetened 1 T. butter
chocolate

If using cornflakes, crush into fine crumbs. Combine the ½ cup of butter, sugar, cocoa, egg and vanilla in top of double boiler. Cook over hot but not boiling water, stirring constantly until mixture is well-blended and slightly thickened. Remove from heat. Add coconut, nuts and cornflake crumbs; mix well. Press into an ungreased 8-in. sq. pan and chill in the refrigerator.

Beat ¼ c. butter until soft. Gradually add vanilla and sugar, stirring until well-blended. Stir in just enough milk so



[Kellogg photo]

Guaranteed to rouse a host of compliments, Chocolate Slices need no baking.

that mixture will spread easily. Spread over chocolate base in pan. Chill.

Melt chocolate with butter over hot but not boiling water; mix well. Spread over vanilla layer. Cut in squares.

Refrigerator Cookies

- 1 lb. butter 1 tsp. cream of
2 c. brown sugar tartar
2 eggs, beaten 1 tsp. baking soda
2 tsp. vanilla 1 c. walnuts,
¾ c. flour finely chopped
Pinch of salt

Cream butter and sugar. Beat in eggs and vanilla. Sift the flour, salt, cream of tartar and soda together into butter mixture. Mix well. Add nuts and form dough in rolls of desired diameter and a length you can store easily in the refrigerator. Wrap rolls in waxed paper and place in the freezer compartment of the refrigerator to chill until stiff. To bake, slice thin and space 1-in. apart on a lightly greased cookie sheet. Bake in a moderate oven at 350°F. for about

10 min. Watch cookies while baking as dough will brown quickly. Yields about 7 doz. cookies.

Coconut Squares

- 1 c. brown sugar 1 c. fine coconut
½ c. butter 1 c. fine graham
1 egg wafer crumbs
½ c. milk Whole graham
½ c. chopped wafers
walnuts

Melt butter and sugar together in a saucepan. Beat egg, then add with milk to first mixture. Heat, stirring, until thick. Remove from stove and cool to lukewarm. Stir in coconut, nuts and wafer crumbs.

Line an ungreased 9-in. square cake pan with whole graham wafers. Spread with filling, then top with another layer of whole graham wafers. Frost with a butter icing and store in the refrigerator.

Note: Colored marshmallows, cherries, or 1 ounce of semi-sweet chocolate may be added to color the filling. V

Skim Milk Powder Is Versatile

IN presenting their 22-page booklet "Skim Milk Powder," the home economists of the Canada Dept. of Agriculture Consumer Section point out the special values of this milk product. It costs less than most forms of milk, and there's absolutely no waste as you can mix it as you need it. It has fewer calories, but all the healthful food value of whole milk (except for fat-soluble vitamin A, which is readily found in fresh green and yellow vegetables.) The powder needs only to be kept dry; when reliquified, the fluid skim milk must be treated as fresh milk. The packaged powder assures you of pasteurized, fresh milk wherever you might be.

"Skim Milk Powder" represents the results of two years of careful research and testing. Recipes are included for soups, sauces, main course dishes, baked goods and desserts. Sample recipes from the booklet are shown at the right.

Cream Sauce

	Thin	Medium	Thick
Butter (tablespoon)	1	2	3
Flour (tablespoon)	1	2	4
Salt (teaspoon)	¼	¼	¼
Skim Milk Powder (cup)	½ to ½	½ to ½	½ to ½
Water (cup)	1	1	1

Melt butter in top of double boiler, then blend in flour and salt. Add skim milk powder, then gradually add water and mix thoroughly to blend all ingredients. Cook over direct heat, stirring constantly until mixture begins to thicken. Place over hot water and cook 5 minutes longer, stirring occasionally. Just before serving, beat well with a rotary beater. Makes 1 cup sauce.

Cheese Sauce: To 2 cups medium cream sauce add 1 to 1½ cups grated cheese. Stir until cheese is melted. Serve on hot toast or use as a sauce for vegetables, hard-cooked eggs, macaroni, etc.

Tea Biscuits

(Standard Method)

- 2 c. sifted all- 4 tsp. baking
purpose flour powder
OR 2¼ cups ¼ c. skim milk
sifted pastry powder
flour 6 T. shortening
1 tsp. salt ¾ c. water

Mix and sift flour, baking powder and salt. Add skim milk powder and stir until thoroughly mixed. Cut in shortening until mixture resembles fine bread crumbs. Make a well, pour in all the water at one time and mix quickly to make a soft but not sticky dough. (Please turn to next page)

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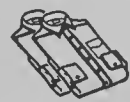
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Woman Relieved of Agonizing ITCH

"I nearly itched to death for 7½ years. Then I found a new wonder-working creme. Now I'm happy," writes Mrs. P. Ramsay of L.A. Calif.

Here's blessed relief from torture of agonizing itch in women, chafing, hemorrhoids, rash and eczema with an amazing new scientific formula called LANACANE. This fast-acting, stainless medicated creme kills harmful bacteria germs while it soothes raw, irritated and inflamed skin tissue. Stops scratching and so speeds healing. Don't suffer! Get LANACANE at druggists.



Toss on a lightly floured board, quickly form into a ball, then knead for 30 seconds by pressing and folding dough several times. Roll lightly to about 3/4-in. thickness. Cut in 2-in. rounds and place on a baking sheet. Bake in a very hot oven at 450°F. for 10 to 12 min. or at 425°F. for 12 to 15 min. Makes about 16 biscuits.

Quantity Tea Biscuit Mix

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 8 c. sifted all-purpose flour | 5 T. baking powder |
| OR 9 c. sifted pastry flour | 1 c. skim milk powder |
| 4 tsp. salt | 1 1/2 c. shortening |

Mix and sift flour, baking powder and salt. Add skim milk powder and stir until thoroughly mixed. Cut in shortening until mixture resembles fine bread crumbs. Store in a covered container in refrigerator or other cool place. To make Tea Biscuits: Measure 2 1/2 cups firmly packed tea biscuit mix into a bowl. Add 3/4 cup water and proceed as for standard "Tea Biscuits" above. Makes about 16 biscuits.

Chocolate "Ice Cream"

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 tsp. gelatin | 1 oz. unsweetened chocolate, chopped |
| 2 T. cold water | OR 1/4 c. cocoa powder |
| 1/4 c. sugar | 1 1/4 c. cold water |
| 1/2 c. skim milk powder | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| 1/2 tsp. salt | |
| 2 tsp. cornstarch | |

Whip:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1/2 c. cold water | 3/4 c. skim milk powder |
| 2 tsp. lemon juice | |
| Few grains salt | 1/4 c. sugar |

Soak gelatin in 2 tablespoons cold water for 5 min. In a saucepan, combine the sugar, skim milk powder, salt, cornstarch and chocolate. Stir in the water. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly, then reduce heat and boil gently for 5 min. Add soaked gelatin and stir until dissolved. Chill over ice water, then stir in vanilla. Continue chilling, stirring occasionally, until mixture has become thick—20 to 30 min.

To make whip: Measure the cold water and lemon juice into a deep mixing bowl. Add skim milk powder and salt and blend well. Beat with a rotary beater or electric mixer (medium-speed) until mixture stands in firm peaks. Beat in sugar.

Add chilled chocolate mixture to whip and beat only long enough to combine. Turn into freezer trays and freeze until firm—about 2 hours. Yields 6 to 8 servings.

Variations

Mocha "Ice Cream": Follow Chocolate Ice Cream Recipe, adding 1 teaspoon instant coffee to the cooked mixture.

Coffee "Ice Cream": Follow recipe for Chocolate Ice Cream, substituting 2 teaspoons instant coffee for the chocolate or cocoa.

Maple Nut "Ice Cream": Follow recipe for Chocolate Ice Cream, omitting the chocolate. Reduce water in cooked mixture to 1 cup; substitute 1/2 cup maple syrup for the sugar in the cooked mixture and 1/4 cup maple syrup for the sugar in the whip. Just before freezing, fold in 1/2 cup chopped walnuts.

Chocolate Chip "Ice Cream": Follow recipe for Chocolate Ice Cream, omitting unsweetened chocolate from the cooked mixture and folding in 1 1/2 ounces finely shaved semi-sweet chocolate just before freezing.

The "Skim Milk Powder" booklet is available free from the Information Division, Canada Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ont. V



Greedy Green Goblin

by GLORIA LOGAN

ONCE upon a time a little green goblin went house-hunting. He was tired of living in a battered old apple juice can on the edge of the town, so he went hopping here and there until he came to an apple orchard. As he poked his long nose this way and that way, he saw a beautiful apple tree. It had great spreading roots and the ground around was soft and moist.

"Just the place for a green goblin," the green goblin laughed as he began to dig a hole under the roots of the apple tree. It was the biggest apple tree in the orchard, and the apples that grew on it were the sweetest, the reddest and the juiciest apples in the whole country. As the goblin dug he munched and crunched on an apple.

"Ho, ho," he said to himself, "these apples are too sweet for me. But I'll soon change that, indeed I will."

Just then an old man came along and picked up an apple.

"Hey, there," yelled the goblin. "These are my apples. You must not take any, see?"

"Your apples?" croaked the old man. "Well, I must say they're not very special," and, dropping the apple, he hobbled away.

"Ha, ha," snickered the goblin. "The old green magic is working already. He doesn't find these apples as sweet as they used to be. Ho, ho."

When the hole was dug, the green goblin raced across town and took his furniture out of the battered old apple juice can and raced back to his new house. When he was all settled he curled up on his bed and laughed to himself and sang a little song that went like this:

*I'm snug and warm and have plenty to eat,
Though the apples here are a trifle sweet.
But my goblin magic has lots of power,
And the apples soon will be green and sour.
They're the reddest apples I've ever seen,
But a goblin must have his apples green.
Dilly-down-dilly, dilly-down-dee . . .
Sour green magic go up the tree.*

Just then he heard some children chattering over his head. He scuttled to the door and poked his long nose out and listened.

"Ugh," said one of the children. "These apples taste terrible. They used to be so sweet, but now they're funny tasting. And, look, they're all green and wrinkled. Let's go find a better tree."

The children hurried off, and the goblin went back to his house, rubbing his hands together with glee.

"I guess they won't want to take my apples now," he croaked. "All the more for me, hee, hee."

After that, when anyone came to the orchard they never even glanced at the sour old apple tree. The greedy green goblin thought that was wonderful, because he wanted all the apples for himself.

But a strange thing happened. The next year, the old apple tree barely put forth leaves and blossoms, and as for fruit, well, the apples looked just like the goblin's cheeks. They were all green and wrinkled and dried up. They were so bitter the goblin couldn't eat them either. He was so disgusted he moved back to the old battered apple juice can and vowed he'd never eat another apple as long as he lived. And that's a long time because goblins live for simply ages and ages.

Now, whenever you find an apple tree with green, withered apples on it, you'd better not eat any. Very likely a green goblin lives under that tree, and the apples won't be fit to eat . . . unless you're a green goblin and awfully, awfully greedy. V



YOUNG PEOPLE

Scouts on Horseback

by LOUISE PLUMB



Mounted scouts line up for inspection. Left to right are: Gary Walthers, John Powers, troop leader Ron Blackmore (Queen's Scout) and Ron Oatman.

SCOUTER ALLAN RICE, standing in the middle of the village schoolyard at Springford, Ont., placed a whistle to his lips and blew a short signal. The boys on horseback, riding in a circle around him, moved smoothly from a two-abreast formation to a four-abreast formation. At another blast from the whistle, the riders brought their horses to a halt. "Prepare to dismount!" the scoutmaster called. Then, "Dismount!" The First Springford Mounted Scout Troop had finished an evening practice session.

The troop, founded on a love of horses, was organized in 1957. And it might never have emerged from the planning stage for a lack of accommodation. However, through the generosity of a villager, Springford's old one-room schoolhouse was turned over for the scouts' use.

The boys' regular weekly meetings are the crux of the troop's program, and Scouter Rice says flatly,

"Our motto is scouting first, ponies second." While it has never happened, a boy can be suspended from mounted activities if his scout work falls below par. The boys are so serious about scouting that in its brief history the troop has already produced five Queen's Scouts. At present 16 boys are mounted, 8 are non-mounted.

The boys who are mounted bring their horses and ponies to the schoolyard 2 or 3 evenings a week, weather permitting. At first they practised mounting and dismounting in unison. To relieve the tedium of this exercise, Scouter Rice introduced cavalry drills which he found in an old World War I manual. Where the book instructions were difficult to follow, he got clarification from an ex-cavalryman and advice from three members of the RCMP.

The boys learn wheels, reverse



[Dennis Moore photos

When the scouts rest during a practice session Dale the Dalmation rests too.

marches, the corner-to-corner cross-over and formation of the scout horseshoe. Eventually they master the split-second timing of the Shanghai Cross (a moving figure-of-eight) and The Charge (two rows of riders, eight abreast, meeting head on and passing at a full gallop).

The mounted scouts often appear in parades and at fairs. For such public occasions, the boys have white martingales for their mounts and gold-colored saddle-blankets emblazoned with the troop's crest—a horseshoe encircling a horse's head. The boys themselves wear white gauntlets. On parade, the non-mounted boys usually carry the Springford banner at the head of the troop.

The troop has been as far afield as Windsor and Owen Sound, and, in May 1958 they attended the Cornplanter District Scout Fair in Pennsylvania. There they displayed their drills every afternoon and evening, and gave children rides in their chuckwagon.

THE boys travel by car with their parents. But shipping 17 horses around the countryside is no easy matter. It might have prevented these trips but for a wood products company in nearby Tillsonburg. It came to the rescue by providing a large van and a driver free of charge.

A secondary problem is always having the required 16 boys on tap for parades and drill displays. After a mare drops a foal, she must be a stay-at-home for 3 or 4 months. So far, however, the care and feeding of foals has not forced the boys to cancel any trips. And Scouter Rice can now point with pride to some second-generation horses in the troop.

Not all of the troop's time on horseback is spent on the spit-and-polish of cavalry drill. The boys also play basketball on horseback and, occasionally, a hilarious version of donkey baseball. Many Sunday afternoons are spent riding the trails around Springford. On these outings Dale, Scouter Rice's Dalmatian, is in his glory.

The main difficulty in keeping a mounted troop mounted is that parents find it easier to sell a horse than to buy one. However, the boys' enthusiasm has surmounted this obstacle.

Good horsemanship—the kind and thoughtful day-to-day care of a horse as well as its training—has enriched the lives of the Springford Scouts. More important, working with horses has brought many fathers and sons closer together and linked the boys more closely with their rural heritage. V

4-H Elects Executive



[McDermid Studios photo

These friends of 4-H have been elected to the Canadian Council's executive committee. Front row (l. to r.): J. C. Bremner, N.B., J. R. Racine, Ont., president; G. L. Landon, B.C., vice-president. Second row: J. D. Moore, Ottawa, manager; H. R. Clark, Sask., Betty Collyer, Man., H. P. McMillan, Que. Third row: N. D. Hogg, D. P. Young and A. G. Bennett, Ontarians all.

Little Gray House

*Oh, you gray, little House, you have
waited so long
Mid wide, rolling fields all alone.
I wonder, while watching your cour-
age, will time
Ever return you your own?*

*Do you dream, little House, standing
wrapt in the mist
In the Spring, on a soft gray day,
Of the children who battled, and
laughed, and played,
And grew up and went away?*

*Do you dream, little House, on a
sweet Summer eve,
With swallows a-wing near the door,
Of the living and loving of shadowy
forms
You've sheltered but see no more?*

*When the colors of Autumn creep
over the land
Do you dream, little House, again
Of the busy hands and the hurrying
feet
That garnered the golden grain?*

*Do you yearn, little House, when a
wild winter storm
Blows bleak and cold from the west,
To gather your fledglings together
once more
And hold them safe in the nest?*

*How your loneliness pulls at the
strings of my heart!
I often, indeed, shed a tear
While watching your vigil so loyal
and brave
For year after empty year.*

—MARION BERNEY

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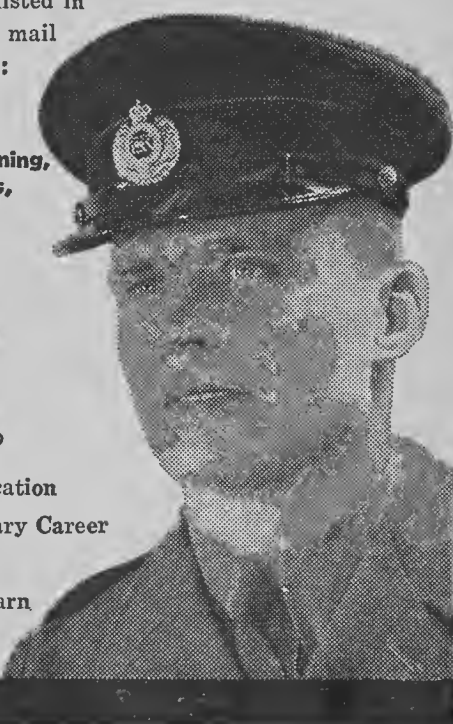
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What Farm Organizations Are Doing

ASK WAITING PERIOD

A resolution submitted by the Ontario Federation of Agriculture at a recent meeting asks that the Ontario Farm Products Marketing Board approve a plan which would allow agricultural producers an adequate period of time to study any proposed marketing plan before voting on it. Another resolution proposed that a disaster fund be established by the ODA to assist farmers who suffered severe livestock losses through diseases not covered by Health of Animals compensation regulations. Concern was also expressed over the increase in turkey thefts in Ontario, and a resolution was approved asking the Attorney General to seek stiffer penalties for those convicted of such offences. With regard to the recent importation of Polish eggs into Ontario at a time when there is no shortage of local eggs, the meeting requested that the CFA press the Dept. of Trade and Commerce to place eggs on the list of commodities needing import permits.

Another resolution having to do with the development of rural lands called upon the Dept. of National Revenue to review depreciation rates (for income tax purposes) on tile drains and open ditches. Specifically, it asked that the rate be increased

from 2½ to 10 per cent on the former, and 20 per cent on the latter. It was felt this increased rate would be more realistic in view of some soil conditions and would encourage farmers to improve their poorly drained lands.

The meeting also expressed satisfaction with the recent announcement that definite funds had been allocated by the Federal Government for development of the ARDA program. Members made plans for the OFA to participate in the program in Ontario by establishing the basis for a rural development committee which will draw membership from the various provincial zones. V

CALL FOR PAYMENT INCREASE

Both the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union and the National Farmers' Union have requested an increase in initial payments for wheat, oats and barley in the 1962-63 crop year, according to A. P. Gleave, president of both bodies. Pointing out that market prices for western grains have advanced, and that the International Wheat Agreement has been negotiated on a higher price level for the next 3 years, Mr. Gleave said an initial payment increase on these

three grains would offset any tendency toward a reduction of the acreage sown to coarse grains which may develop.

Another argument for higher initial payments is that farm costs are continuing to rise because of domestic inflationary trends and devaluation of the Canadian dollar. The latter will increase the cost of farm machinery and parts, much of which is imported from the U.S. and other countries. Since the initial payment is also in effect a floor price for grains, Mr. Gleave concluded, it is insurance for farmers against any unforeseen sudden break in future markets. V

MEDICAL PLAN ENDORSED

The Farmers' Union of Alberta has endorsed the stand taken by their Saskatchewan counterpart with regard to the health plan adopted by the Saskatchewan Government. The SFU stand read: "We believe that the right to health care is just as

basic as the right to education, and that the protection and promotion of both these rights fall in the realm of public authority." The FUA condemned the strike action threat employed by the Saskatchewan College of Physicians and Surgeons which plays on the people's fear of untreated illness. V

NO TARIFF INCREASE

Although recognizing the need for revising the system of chemical product names in tariff schedules, the National Farmers' Union has opposed any blanket increases in tariffs on chemicals. In a brief to the Tariff Board last month, the Union pointed out that under present conditions of high farm costs and low farm incomes the price of chemical products used in agriculture must be kept as low as possible. Any increase in import duties would only have an adverse effect on Canadian exports through tariff retaliation by the countries concerned. V

Letters

Better Late Than Never

We owe you a very sincere apology for our failure to send you particulars of Social Credit farm policy in time for your May issue, and thank you for your suggestion that we might use your correspondence columns to inform your readers of Social Credit Agricultural Policy.

Social Credit farm policy is designed to achieve three things.

1. Preserve the family farmer, caught in a squeeze between rising costs and fixed prices for his product.
2. Maintain a stable price for farm products, related to cost of production rather than fluctuations of the world market.
3. Promote adequate markets for Canadian farm products, particularly among friendly nations abroad, and eliminate agricultural surpluses.

Social Credit's method of carrying out this policy would be:

1. Estimate domestic demand for each type of farm product per year, and guarantee to all farmers equally a price based on fair average cost of production, plus reasonable profit, for that farmer's fractional share of that total quantity. This will:

- eliminate government subsidy of unsaleable surpluses;
- give a market with a guaranteed fair return to the small farmer; encourage diversification in farm production.
- 2. Adopt a two-price arrangement to lower export prices, subject to existing international agreements. Export prices would be lowered by funds allocated from a "parity pool." This parity pool would receive its income from government receipts from tariffs on imports.
- 3. Because of Canada's need to increase exports, in certain cases Canada would reduce its price still further for export to friendly nations under pressure from Communism by

funds allocated from the Defence budget. Social Credit is highly critical of wheat sales to Communist China. This is not because it wants the Chinese to starve, but because the wheat, when sent, does not appear to go to the hungry Chinese, but is used as an instrument of Communist penetration into the defences of the free world. Canada ships wheat to China. China has a quota of grain to send to Russia. Russia uses it in a trade offensive, sending it to Ceylon and Japan. Canada could short circuit this process, and make itself friends instead of enemies, by using a realistic wheat trading policy to the free countries of the western world, and extending credit as freely as it does to the Communists.

We trust that this will make our position clear, and once again, we apologize for the slip up that meant we did not write to you earlier.

Yours sincerely,
J. M. Hattersley,
Personal Secretary to the
National Leader.

New Experiment in Co-operation

We respect Mr. Nelson's idealism and have faith in his integrity. There is however a need for a member of the rank and file to express certain criticisms of the F.U. & C.D.A. We are led to believe the F.U. & C.D.A. is concerned with community development and that to be respectable we ought to like what it is doing. The trouble is we do not. The resulting feeling of frustration in the F.U.A. locals is painful to see. So much so one local has refused to discuss F.U. & C.D.A. If it did it would have to call in a psychiatrist to cure the resulting mental conflicts and frustrations. The people least able to explain F.U. & C.D.A. are the ones who attend its meetings. The assault of verbiage must be all powerful because such people return home



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suffering from persistent dizziness, unable to make a clear statement.

In the first place we would like to know how the F.U. & C.D.A. spends its money. Some say it has a budget of \$30,000 per year. It is our money and we are entitled to an accounting. No doubt certain technicalities are being complied with, but a financial statement should be made public.

The F.U. & C.D.A. goes gaily onward setting up new district teams. Would not ordinary caution have demanded that one team be set to work producing worthwhile results before a second is set up? Then experience gained in the working of the first could be usefully employed in setting up the second. Or is the F.U. & C.D.A. omniscient

as the result of an ample supply of funds? To answer that this thing worked once upon a time in some far away land is not good enough.

It occurs to me that an F.U.A. district is not a natural functioning social unit but is rather a set of lines drawn on a map for purposes of F.U.A. administration and as such is totally unsuited as a unit for F.U. & C.D.A. purposes. A natural functioning social unit is the principal marketing town in a given area. It provides services to residents within a radius of 20 or 30 or even 50 miles around. In these days of improved rapid transport this tendency is becoming more pronounced every day. But if the F.U. & C.D.A. would study the principal marketing center as a functioning social unit as well as an F.U.A. unit, it might be able to lead us somewhere worthwhile.

Under the district team idea it is impossible to get action in one center without involving representatives of some far off unrelated center. The amount of inertia and red tape to be overcome is appalling to contemplate. Farmers have enough organization problems of their own without dragging in churches, service clubs, chambers of commerce and suchlike paraphernalia. Time enough, when we have put our own house in order, to proceed to other phases of community development.

LESLIE PRITCHARD,
R.R. No. 2,
Wetaskiwin, Alta.

Breaking Faith

I heartily endorse the Royal Canadian Legion Zone Commander's letter regarding the flag being a political football. Shouldn't we remember, with reverence, the heroes and martyrs who, from the farm and factory, went forth under our Canadian flag, to the African, World Wars I and II and Korea, steadfastly fighting for a better world, and some not coming back, with veterans still in hospital from World War I, forgotten by most. Are we to understand from politicians that these men didn't want the flag, but stumbled blindly on unguided? How soon can one break faith with those who died at Belsen, Dachau, Lidice, Rotterdam, Dieppe, Casino, Japanese P.O.W. Camps, Arnhem?

MAURICE R. PAYNE,
Petawawa Point, Ont.

From Texas

Our family enjoys the magazine very much. In every issue there is something special. Sometimes the picture on the cover is of the most interest to me. I love the section of poems and use nearly all of them in my scrapbooks.

In the February number I think the story "Woman Alone" is real good.

You have an interesting magazine and I hope it is not a great deal of trouble to send it all the way to

Texas. My best wishes to all the staff of The Country Guide.

MRS. S. G. ADAMSON,
Hedley, Texas, U.S.A.

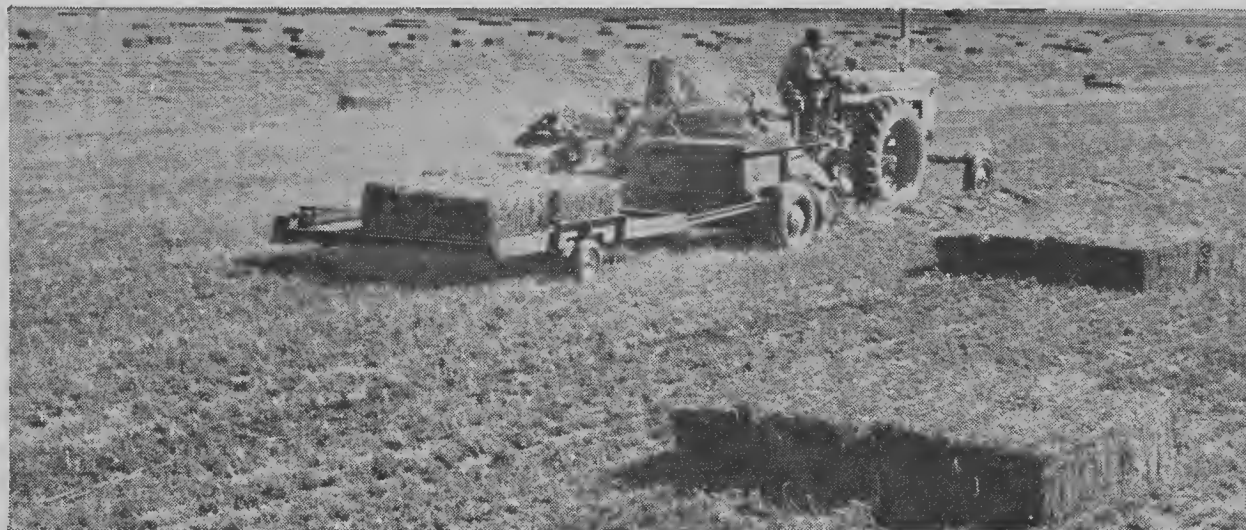
Back to Feudal System

When one railway decided to do away with firemen an intelligent conductor friend claimed many were at the age where it was hard to change to other jobs. That is the way with us small farmers, more so with so much study in new methods to survive. We blame our troubles on Mr. Diefenbaker and Mr. Pearson listening to labor leaders more than the rank and file. My conductor friend was of the opinion that he wasn't any farther ahead financially and could see trade shrinking in some farm products over high prices and costs. He was also of the opinion a few hundred industrialists control our economy. These people are investing in lower wage countries, and are more liable to ship things in than out.

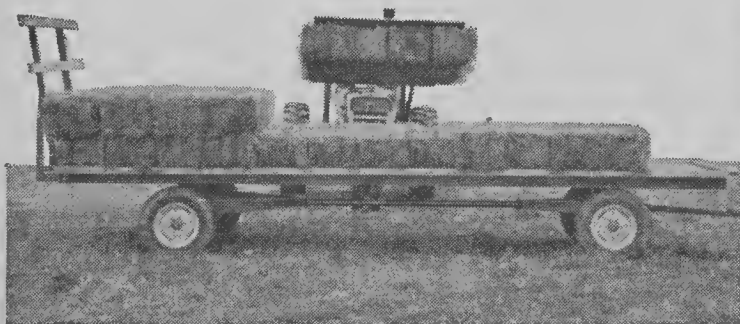
I can't see under this economy where it's possible to find city jobs for small farmers forced off the land with so many married women working. Our Federal leaders take a very timid stand during strikes and show no leadership like Mr. St. Laurent did in 1950, or our Ontario Government did recently in the threatened Hydro strike. Intelligent people in Ontario think we are going back to the old feudal system with everything getting bigger to overcome

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BERT CORNEILLE,
Melbourne, Ont.

Changed His Mind

I almost decided not to renew. You see—we older people have now left our farms and are not so concerned with the reports of the deliberations of various farm groups—but I am personally more concerned with something wherewith to while away some hours of leisure. Therefore, my preference is for a magazine that includes crossword puzzles and/or chess problems. Some farm papers have one or the other—but The Country Guide has neither—how come?

A. H. FUNNELL,
Halcourt, Alta.

A Bright Paper

We think The Country Guide is outstanding and would not miss it. There seems to be other attractions like TV and radio and even our own endeavors to produce beautiful music that take our time. However, there is a certain inspiration in reading a bright paper like yours and we are going to do the same about renewing as is sometimes done in a certain game of chance, raise you two.

WILFORD D. McDONALD,
Box 62, Callander, Ont.



Hi Folks:

When I start thinking about the dairy situation I get pretty discouraged.

"Who in his right mind would choose to be a farmer?" I said to Ted Corbett, "especially a dairy farmer. To meet rising costs we have to increase production. When we increase production, we get a surplus and down goes the price. Too bad we can't just go on strike for more money like industrial workers do. Their extra money doesn't come from better work or more production. No sir, they get it by just grabbing a bigger share of what's going. I say we should do the same."

"The reason we can't grab more of what's going is because there ain't enough extra food dollars to

grab," Ted replied. "And if the workers increased their production too much, the Government would have to start buying up industrial surpluses, such as autos and pots and pans."

"The price of cars has gone away up, why not increase the price of food?"

Ted shook his head. "That would start a fresh round of strikes the like of which this country has never seen. You can increase the price of booze, cars, TV sets, or most anything, and people will pay without a squawk. But not food—that's political dynamite! No sir, we've got to find a different way."

"You mean planned production, or something of that sort?"

"Maybe," he nodded. "Kind of reminds me of one time I went hunt-

ing with Bob Jackson. When we started out, Bob went one direction and I the other. After a bit, I heard a shot. Later a fine buck came running past my hiding place, and I was able to drop him with my first shot.

"Well sir," he went on, "when we started to dress the critter out that afternoon we found he'd been shot at least three times.

"Looks like the same one I shot at this morning," said Bob. "I think I nicked him on the shoulder here."

"Before we'd finished, a couple more hunters came by. They'd been out 4 days and only seen one buck.

"Say, that looks like him there!" one of them cried. "When I shot, I took off a piece of one spike." He pointed to a broken stub of horn on my deer.

"After that I got to thinking," said Ted. "The trouble with this place is there just ain't enough bucks to go around. We ended up by sharing what we had and went home.

"Maybe someday we'll all just have to make up our minds to be satisfied with less of the world's goods."

He could be right. But I wonder who's going to be the first to stop demanding more?

Sincerely,
PETE WILLIAMS.

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